

**TOWN OF SAND LAKE  
TOWN BOARD MEETING  
April 14, 2021**

A Meeting of the Sand Lake Town Board was held on April 14, 2021 at the Sand Lake Town Hall. After the Pledge of Allegiance, the following answered roll call:

**PRESENT:** Councilman Bulmer  
Deputy Supervisor Erickson  
Councilman Film  
Councilman Nippes  
Supervisor Perry  
Town Attorney Ely - Absent

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Barbara Hansen, Town Clerk

**CALL TO ORDER:** Supervisor Perry opened the meeting at 7:00 P.M.

**TOWN CLERK'S REPORT:** TOWN CLERK'S REPORT – TB MEETING April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Total Revenue for March, 2021	-	\$ 10,760.25
Paid to Agriculture & Markets for Spay/Neuter Program	`	\$ 79.00
Paid to New York State Health for Marriage Licenses	-	\$ 45.00
DEC Sweep Fishing & Hunting Licenses	-	\$ 80.29
Paid to Supervisor Perry	-	\$ 10,555.96

Remember the Burn ban is still on until May 14<sup>th</sup>.

We've sold quite a few fishing licenses in the past few weeks. We received the new Fishing Regulations Guide on Monday. They look a little different than in the past. Smaller booklet. Please come and pick one up as there have been significant changes to some of the regulations.

DEC has authorized "free fishing days" so take a friend, grandchild or relative fishing: June 26-27, September 25, November 11 and February 19-20.

Also, if you would like to get a permit for Tomhannock Reservoir we can't do them here. You need to get that from the Troy City Clerk at 433 River Street, 518-279-7134.

Rensselaer County is sponsoring a Rabies Clinic May 1<sup>st</sup> @ APHS 8-12:00. There is a link on Town's website to register. If you have trouble call us here at my office and I will try to help get you signed up. There will be additional Clinics on June 12<sup>th</sup>, August 7<sup>th</sup> and a date in October TBD. All clinics will be at APHS but each clinic will have its own link for sign up. You must sign up more than 24 hours prior to the clinic as the link will be shut down at that time.

The Town is sponsoring a Town Wide Clean Up Day and volunteers are needed. Please come to Butler Park at 8:30 on April 24<sup>th</sup> to join in and you will be assigned to a specific area of Town. Bring gloves. Volunteers will be collecting trash to be picked up later. Let's make Sand Lake Shine.

Sgt Walter Adams VFW Post in AP is doing a Chicken BBQ (chicken halves) this Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup>. Call 518-674-2309 to place your order, OR you can text your name, #chicken halves desired and pickup time (11:00-4:00). Cost is \$6.50 per ½ chicken. Chicken halves only, no full dinners at this time.

**SUPERVISOR'S REPORT:** The Planning Oversight Committee (POC) is planning a Town Wide Clean-Up Day on April 24<sup>th</sup>, and the Board is very pleased with the Committee's work. On behalf of the Town, a special thank you to David Post, Chairman of the POC, and his wife Regina for their leadership.

On another note, Supervisor Perry received emails about 2 accidents at the intersection of Roaser and Taborton Road. It is a dangerous intersection in that there is a blind spot, especially when turning left from Roaser Road onto Taborton Road, which crests just before the intersection. She contacted Joel Hunt, Sand Lake Highway Department Dispatcher and Scott Bendett, County Legislator, who contacted the County Highway Engineer and County Highway Superintendent. The County is going to place more traffic and speed warning signs leading up to the intersections. Residents are urged to obey the speed limit of 40 mph.

**COUNCILMAN BULMER'S REPORT:** The Park and Beach Committee met and agreed to do some maintenance and repairs to both areas. Animal Control Office, Cathy Crawmer, received 12 calls last month. There were 11 street lights reported out. They have been reported but it does take the power company about 2-3 weeks to repair them.

**DEPUTY SUPERVISOR ERICKSON'S REPORT:** SCLA: Please support the SLCA's various fundraisers since it has been hit particularly hard by Covid. Library: The Library is functioning with limited hours. Please check out SCLA'S Facebook page and the Library's website for more information. Open Spaces: The Pump Track and Walking trails are very popular. Thank you to all involved in bringing these projects to fruition. The Sand Lake Historical has been very active. Recently, Fred DeMay did a presentation on the Rensselaer Plateau since much of the Plateau is in Sand Lake. Please check out the Sand Lake Historical Society's website at: [sandlakehistory.org](http://sandlakehistory.org) for more information.

**COUNCILMAN FILM'S REPORT:** Unfortunately Poestenkill residents voted down the Ambulance District. We were hoping it would have been approved so that we could join resources with Poestenkill to continue to give top notch emergency services to residents. New discussions will be forthcoming to discuss where we go from here since funding for these services are shrinking. Transfer Station: The ad is in the paper seeking bids for trash pick-up service. All bids need to be in by April 26<sup>th</sup>.

Assessment: The 2021 Assessment Roll is up 7.1 million dollars which should help us to hold the line on taxes again this year.

Also, there is a lot of Grant money available for water projects and we are looking into the details to see if we can bring some trunk lines in to bring water to our hamlets and schools.

**COUNCILMAN NIPPES' REPORT:** Sand Lake Seniors are meeting again at Averill Park Fire House 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month at noon. There was discussion about the security cameras at Butler Park and prices have been obtained from Spectrum to get wi-fi installed so activity on the cameras can be more easily accessed.

**BRIAN HUNT – HIGHWAY:** The Town owned property on Orient Avenue has been examined and most of the stakes have been found. Hopefully, at some point, this can be turned into a walking trail for the public to enjoy. Beavers have been a problem in the wetlands on Gettle Road causing the water to rise. Sweepers are out and doing spring clean up and the brush pile at the Town garage will have to be ground soon as we're running out of space. They are working on a road paving list. There has been some vandalism in the gravel banks. If anyone has any information please notify someone at the Town Hall or Garage. Some guardrails on Gettle Road and Crystal Lake Road will be inspected and replaced, as needed.

**DAVID POST**, Chairman of the Planning Oversight Committee (POC): At the last Town Board Workshop Meeting the Town Board established three initiatives. The first two were the formation of two Committees: A Communication and Marketing and a Community Engagement Committee. We invite all residents to join in and work with these committees to promote our Town. Members of the POC will assist all volunteers to get everyone fully involved. The third initiative is the Town Wide Spring Clean-UP, entitled "To Make Sand Lake Shine" schedule for April 24<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 – 12:00 pm. Sign up at 8:30 at Butler Park. This coincides with Earth Day. The plan is to spruce up common areas such as the Town Park and Beach, West Sand Lake, Veterans Park, Hiking Trails, Community Center and the Averill Park Dykes. We need volunteers to make this endeavor successful. Please contact David at: [SLPOC@sand-lake.us](mailto:SLPOC@sand-lake.us) with any questions.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Wayne Gendron, ZBA member, asked the Board's permission to start having "in person" ZBA meetings soon. Currently, they are meeting on Zoom. Supervisor Perry is going to speak with the Town Attorneys to see if this is permissible.

**BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTION #2021-04-19**

**Local Law #1 Qualification for Eligibility to Hold an Elective Office in the Town of Sand Lake**

**Moved by: Supervisor Perry**

**Seconded by: Deputy Supervisor Erickson**

*Whereas*, proposed Local Law #1 of 2021 was introduced at the February 10, 2021 Town Board meeting and a Public Hearing was held on the proposed law at the Town Board meeting on March 10, 2021; now therefore

*Be it Resolved*, the Sand Lake Town Board amends Chapter 55 of the Code of the Town of Sand Lake to add Section 55-3 to read:

55-3. Qualification for Eligibility to Hold an Elective Office in the Town of Sand Lake, New York

1. No person shall be eligible to hold an elective office in the Town of Sand Lake while at the same time holding any elective office in the County of Rensselaer, New York or the State of New York.
2. This qualification shall be in addition to, but not in substitution of, any other qualification to hold a Town of Sand Lake elective office required by any State or Local Law.
3. This local law shall become effective immediately upon filing the same with the New York State Secretary of State.

**ADOPTED: AYES 5 – NAYS 0**

Councilman Nippes questioned if this Law would apply to elected officers of the School Board and the consensus of opinion was yes, it would.

**RESOLUTION #2021-04-20**

**Approval to Obtain Legal Counsel for Appeal of Barnes Road Area Neighborhood Association et. al. v. The Planning Board of the Town of Sand Lake and Kenneth Bailey**

**Moved by: Supervisor Perry**

**Seconded by: Councilman Film**

***Be it Resolved***, the Sand Lake Town Board approves Scott J. Ely, Esq. to prepare, submit, and defend all legal work necessary for the appeal of the lawsuit Barnes Road Area Neighborhood et.al. v. The Planning Board of the Town of Sand Lake and Kenneth Bailey at a total cost not-to-exceed \$5,000.

**ADOPTED: AYES 5 – NAYS 0**

**RESOLUTION #2021-04-21**

**Creation of Town Water Committee**

**Moved by:** Supervisor Perry

**Seconded by:** Councilman Bulmer

***Be it Resolved***, the Sand Lake Town Board appoints Councilman William Film to chair a Town Water Committee, focused on maximizing efforts currently underway to extend water to the Averill Park School District to other areas within the town and;

***Be it Further Resolved***, any town resident wishing to serve on the Committee should reach out to Councilman Film directly via his town email address of [WFilm@sand-lake.us](mailto:WFilm@sand-lake.us).

**ADOPTED: AYES 5 – NAYS 0**

Supervisor Perry explained that it is the Town Board's understanding that water is coming to Algonquin Middle School and Miller Hill Elementary. Since that trunk line is coming down Route 66 it might make sense for us to explore the possibility of tapping into it to service other areas of Town, and not miss an opportunity to join in on this project. The Town is expecting \$920,000 in stimulus money and we are not sure what restrictions will be placed on where that can be spent. If it's limited to infrastructure projects, this might be a good project for those funds. We are hoping that by forming a Water Committee now, some initial investigation into these issues could be done so that we have a full understanding of the projects, and will be able to move quickly to join in. Garrett DeGraff asked how the water coming to the schools is being funded. Supervisor Perry said the schools are funding the project and they have probably applied for State aid.

**RESOLUTION #2021-04-22**

**Budget Transfer and Amendments**

**Moved by:** Supervisor Perry

**Seconded by:** Deputy Supervisor Perry

**Be It Resolved** the following transfers are made to the 2021 Budget:

From	To	Amount
A 1990.4000 Contingency	A 1950.4000 Taxes on Mun. Property Contractual	\$10.00
A 1990.4000 Contingency	A 1910.4000 Unallocated Insurance Contractual	\$350.00
A 1990.4000 Contingency	A 1440.4000 Engineer Contractual	\$700.00
A 1990.4000 Contingency	A 1420.4000 Attorney Contractual	\$6940.00
A 1010.4000 Town Board Contractual	A 1420.4000 Attorney Contractual	\$5000.00

Budget Amendments

None at this time.

**ADOPTED: AYES 5 – NAYS 0**

Supervisor Perry noted that at the next Workshop meeting the Board will be discussing the NYSEDA New York Stretch Program which is a series of building codes that are going to be required throughout New York in a couple of years. She believes it would be a good idea to get ahead of the curve which would make us eligible for grants. Councilman Bulmer said these additional building requirements could add as much as 3-5% in construction costs, although it is recovered in 7-10 years.

Summer Concerts in the Park: Supervisor Perry said there is no money in the budget this year for concerts. The hope was that sponsorships could be obtained to fund concerts. Councilman Bulmer suggested we wait to see what guidelines we get from the State regarding large gatherings. Councilman Nippes said he knows we will have to scale down the number of concerts this year and already has two corporate sponsors. He would like to book some bands soon since they book up quickly. He thinks we could do 5 or 6 concerts with some Town funds and sponsorships. The Board decided they need to have more discussion about the number of concerts and how they will be funded before a decision is reached. Deputy Supervisor Erickson is willing to talk about the Town funding some concerts. Supervisor Perry suggested the Board reach out to the Business Association to see if they were willing to fund an event. There will be more discussion in the near future regarding concerts.

Councilman Bulmer would like to have a formal recognition, by resolution, of kids, in our community who have contributed greatly to many town projects, such as the walking trails, pump track and clean ups. The Board thinks this is a great idea.

Wayne Gendron has assembled a group to target the Veterans Park on Clean-Up Day. There is some peeling paint that needs to be addressed and he was going to clear this work with the Veterans group who oversee the Park.

Supervisor Perry made a motion to adjourn the April 14, 2021 Town Board Meeting at 8:12 p.m. This was seconded by Councilman Film.

**MOTION CARRIED: UNANIMOUS**