

April 16, 2013

The regular Town Board meeting of the Town of Stony Creek was held on April 16, 2013.

Supervisor Frank Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM with members present:

Councilman Harry Paul Gill
Councilman Nathan Thomas
Councilwoman Doreen Ryan
Councilman John Thomas
Attorney James Cooper

March 19, 2013 minutes; corrections:

Page 299 change List to Lisa. Page 3 change Board of Directors to Board of Commissioners.

A motion was made by Councilman Gill seconded by Councilwoman Ryan to accept the March 19, 2013 minutes with these corrections. All in favor, motion carried.

074-13. A resolution was made by Councilman Gill seconded by Councilman Nathan Thomas to pay the General Fund bills in the amount of \$7,325.46. Roll call vote, all in favor.

075-13. A resolution was made by Councilman Gill seconded by Councilman John Thomas to pay the Highway Fund bills in the amount of \$31,492.52. Roll call vote, all in favor.

Town Clerk report:

Conservation license	\$ 1.60
Marriage license	17.50
Copies	<u>.25</u>
Total Town Clerk fees	\$19.35
Dog licenses	<u>70.00</u>
Total Town Revenues to Supervisor	\$89.35
NYS Ag and Markets	14.00
NYS Dept of Health	22.50
NYS Environmental Conservation	<u>27.40</u>
Total disbursed	\$153.25

Correspondence:

No correspondence received.

Old Business: Fire protection:

Supervisor Thomas reported that last month he handed out a Fire Protection Contract and Liability Issues For The Town pamphlet he picked up at the Association of Town Meeting in NYC. He wanted to give the Town Board time to look it over. Supervisor Thomas asked for comments from the Board. Councilman John Thomas stated we were going to have the lawyer look into this. Attorney Cooper stated he did look it over and stated the Attorney that put this together he thinks he lives in a different world then small towns in New York and if the Town Board imposed themselves on the local fire co. in all the ways this fellow suggest he would think we wouldn't have a local fire co. in his opinion.

There would be too much bureaucracy. Attorney Cooper does think as a minimum the Board should be looking into getting a copy of the fire company's liability insurance policy and the town be named as additional insured, in the event that somebody chasing a fire has a car accident and hurts somebody and the town gets sued. Because of that we would like to have the additional layer of policy of insurance. He thinks that would be wise to do that. Supervisor Thomas stated he tends to agree with Attorney Cooper. Supervisor Thomas thinks a lot of this is, he has been on the Town Board for 20 years and he thinks some of these things might be something to consider like the liability insurance part of it also the life insurance with VESCO, BFBL. He isn't sure the town carries an active death and disability benefit. This would have to be checked into, it does say we are liable for that. Supervisor Thomas stated he thinks it is more of a liability part of it then it is checking off each member and disciplining people.

Councilman John Thomas stated it's more of an information thing for the readers. Most of the people here involved in the fire dept. in one point or another as far as OASH and stuff there is a whole list of things they cover every year, the training, physicals all that stuff. We have to document every year for every member. We have to keep the records for everyone that is a member of the fire company.

Councilman Nathan Thomas asked if they want to draft a letter to the fire co for the request for the liability insurance? Supervisor Thomas stated to make it official. Councilman Nathan Thomas stated yes.

Supervisor Thomas stated he thought it was interesting when he sat in the seminar. It kind of shocked him to what this instructor was saying and he thought he would bring it to the Board to know what is out there. Councilman John Thomas stated when he read it though, it sounded like he wanted to sell his services. Supervisor Thomas stated there was some of that going on also. Attorney Cooper stated when we were discussing this Supervisor Thomas also thought it was a good idea to contact the town's carrier to see what coverage the town has, that spreads over the fire company liability issue. Supervisor Thomas stated Cool Insurance Company is in the process of doing the town's renewal, which is May 7th. They have been here and got the information and will be coming back with a price. Councilman John Thomas stated the Fire co. will be doing theirs and having their Insurance carrier coming Thursday night.

Supervisor Thomas stated the last meeting they talked about the EMS too. He talked to Peter LaGrasse a couple times and he informed him that he talked to the gentleman in Warrensburg and indicated he wanted to talk to the people in Luzerne. Councilman John Thomas stated he knows he is working on it but were waiting to see what was happening between Thurman and Warrensburg. That would indicate which way would be easy and best way for the fire co. to go. Supervisor Thomas stated the only thing he is worried about is if we are going to need more money for whatever reason we will need to know that before October. Councilman John Thomas stated right now it doesn't look like it. We do have more EMT's that will be getting through the course. There is a couple people which will be doing a complete EMT course, which will help us out. He will let Supervisor Thomas know as soon as possible.

Francis Dean Farm Heritage Trails:

Supervisor Thomas stated with the help of Sandi Payne they sent out RFP (Request for Proposals) for the Francis Dean Farm Heritage Trails. They were sent out to three or four people to design signs they are due back May 7th. Hopefully they will get decent prices for these signs and start getting them made and put together.

Councilman John Thomas asked if there was a deadline that they had to have it done by?

Supervisor Thomas stated yes it is by the middle of December. \$5000.00 is for part of the DEC Settlement. Supervisor Thomas also stated that he expects that work will resume on the trail system probably in the next couple weeks if not sooner. He is in the process of accounting for everything they have done last year as far as getting it all listed out so they can go to the county and acquire some of the 50/50 match on the grant the county and town has with NYS. Hopefully we will get enough back out of that to fund a good part of this year.

Councilwoman Ryan stated she attended the Felt-making class at the Stony Creek Free Library. It was a real nice class. Most of the work will be displayed at the Stony Creek Free Library on May 25th. On May 22nd they will be having a beading class. The cost for this is \$5.00 and it will be held from 6:30-8:30 PM.

Committee reports:

Councilman Nathan Thomas stated he would like to search out some volunteers for the Cemetery Committee and get going on that this Spring. Whether we run an ad or contact the Boy Scouts and meet once a week or so and get them figured out this Spring. Councilman John Thomas asked if the town is required to have fencing around the cemeteries. He knows most of the small private ones with two or three headstones don't. Attorney Cooper stated he knows the Statue says we do but they don't say how much or whether it is just between the closest public highways and the tombstones. It is pretty vague about that. If push came to shove he thinks the town would have to do something in any given situation. No one has been complaining about that so it hasn't been done. Councilman John Thomas stated he talked with Harold Hastings and he said some cemeteries have old fencing some are in good shape, some of it you can't hardly tell there was fencing there. Councilman John Thomas was wondering in case someone was wondering if we don't take care of the fencing or replace it that's why he was asking. Supervisor Thomas stated we do try to maintain it to some degree but some is kind of old.

Highway: CHIPS

Supervisor Thomas reported NYS has increased the towns CHIPS by 27% which is a \$20,322.35 increase for a total of \$95,704.00 for Capital Improvements Program. This was in the State Budget and is the first time in five-years.

Supervisor Thomas reported that Supt. Bradley has been working in closing the large project with FEMA. That is a project that involves four smaller projects, four different roads. He has most of the paperwork together and looks like we will be getting little more money from FEMA.

New Business:

076-13. A resolution was made by Councilwoman Ryan seconded by Councilman Gill authorizing the following budget transfer:

Debit DA5110.4 General Repairs Contractual in the amount of \$2,733.39.

Credit DA5130.2 Machinery Equipment in the amount of \$2,733.39.

Roll call vote, all in favor.

Supervisor Thomas reported the Memorial Day Parade will be held at 1:00 PM on Monday May 27, 2013. Anyone wanting to participate are welcome to join in the parade.

From the floor:

Robert and Judy Nelson on VanAuken Road were present to discuss the damage to their bridge. Mr. Nelson stated they have had a camp on Van Auken Road for the past 10 years; it's the old hunting property next to the L'Episcopo's. Peter Place owns it now. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson came here tonight to talk to the Board about some things that have happened over the course of a year. There was a big storm and VanAuken Road got washed out and a trench was dug from Peter Place's property on their side of the road all the way down to reconnect the stream and that was to try to prevent a washout again. Just recently their bridge, the deck was removed from their bridge. He thinks that was also to save the road. What it really is they don't have access to their property at all now. Where the trench was dug they can't cross that anymore and now their bridge was removed, the top deck. There is more destruction then he thought. He is up here for the first time. It happened in March. The beams are bent and the concrete is destroyed and he thinks other measures could have been taken to get the stream to not go down the road. Like a chain saw through the boards or something or divert a trench and he feels that the damage that was done was for no reason. He doesn't understand why it was done. Mr. Nelson stated he had spoken to Supt. Bradley a couple times and he mentioned the snowplower was plowing the snow into the stream and that was causing the back up. Mr. Nelson stated he thinks other measures could have been taken to remedy this situation. In an emergency situation you have to analyze it and take the safest and inexpensive way to fix it and he thinks that is what you have to do. But he doesn't think that destroying his bridge was the right remedy that is a legal bridge they have all the documentation. He is just telling the Board this to see what they think and if there is anything that can be done.

Supervisor Thomas stated we did talk about this at the last meeting. Last Month there was three Board members here. All of the members weren't here and we had come to the conclusion that we don't think the town should do anything because we felt that it would be a slippery slope. If we fix your bridge then we will be fixing everybody's. Mrs. Nelson stated but you tore it apart. It's a steel bridge it didn't have to be done that way. Mr. Nelson stated its in horrible condition and agreed with his wife it didn't have to be done that way.

Supt Bradley stated he did it not the Board blame him. Supt. Bradley stated just so you know he could have dug a trench around the bridge, there was no time. The road was going; he really didn't want the road gone again. If they had an excavator on the bridge we could have actually pulled it underneight and got it out. We lost out shirt on the roads big time and he wasn't about to have it done again. Mr. Nelson stated it was an unusual weather; it has been unusual weather that's for sure.

Mr. Nelson stated according to our neighbor at the point that you (Supt. Bradley) showed up it was already rescinding and there was no benefit in doing that. Supt. Bradley stated no it was going really good. He doesn't know who told them that but it was going really good. He was there and he had guys there too. It wasn't four-feet down the road, he has pictures of it; the road was damaged big time.

Supt. Bradley stated he knows Mr. Nelson got permission from, he guessed Darcy. Mr. Nelson stated both from the Town of Stony Creek. Supt. Bradley stated he didn't get it from the Town of Stony Creek. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson stated yes he did. Mr. Nelson stated he called the Town of Stony Creek, Supt. Bradley stated he didn't talk to Frank (Supervisor Thomas). Mr. Nelson stated he called March of 2004 and he spoke to a woman named Darcy, he didn't know who she was, and she said she would contact the right people and remembered the name Watt Cole and remembered Frank Thomas and she would get back to him and let him know. She called him back and said there is nothing in the code for a permit; you don't need one you should go to the APA. He went to the APA and he filled out a Jurisdictional Inquiry Form, they sent him a letter, which he has and Supervisor Thomas was cc: on the letter, Mr. Frank Thomas. The letter stated that no permit was required and he should go to DEC. He went to DEC, a permit was required, he got the permit, DEC inspected it and he got a Letter of Compliance from DEC. So as far as he is concerned it is a legal bridge. Supt. Bradley stated also we can do whatever we have to do to open and save our roads and asked Attorney Cooper to correct him if he is wrong. He read in the Highway Law. Mrs. Nelson stated what about the access to go on their property that is gone now. So now they can't get on their property, she doesn't think that is fair.

Supt. Bradley stated we didn't have to fix that and that was a huge trench that was already there. We didn't have to we moved it over a little bit. If we didn't fix that we still could have a road that would still be there, it did get deeper from the last storm. Mr. Nelson stated you need to analyze the situation, an emergency situation and figure out the safest and most inexpensive remedy. If a town bridge had to be destroyed to save the road who would fix that bridge? Supervisor Thomas stated the town would. Mr. Nelson stated yes sir. Supt. Bradley stated but also in hindsight not that he would think of that, what's cheaper? To rip some boards off the bridge. Mrs. Nelson stated you just didn't rip the boards you destroyed the whole thing. Supt. Bradley stated 4x6's to tear them off the bridge. Is that cheaper? It obviously did more damage, we know that but did we know that was going to happen. Mrs. Nelson stated like you said you could have done it with a chain saw. Supt. Bradley stated if we cut the boards what good would that have done. Mrs. Nelson stated you ripped up the cement. Mr. Nelson stated you moved the boards. Supt. Bradley stated the boards were bolted down on the bridge what good would a chain saw have done. Mr. Nelson stated cut right between the beams. Supt. Bradley stated then what. Mr. Nelson stated the boards are removed. Supt. Bradley stated is it not bolted down? Mr. Nelson stated the boards are removed. Supt. Bradley stated they didn't have a chainsaw at the time. Your saying cut them, he didn't notice, how far were the bolts in everyone or only on the ends? Mr. Nelson stated every third. Supt. Bradley stated every third, so your saying cut each section out. Mr. Nelson stated yes. Supt. Bradley stated there is no way that he could phantom doing that. He's going to send someone down here to get a chainsaw and have the road keep going. We were short handed. Councilwoman Ryan asked if the water was going over the bridge when the guys got there.

Supt Bradley stated yes, he only had two people and could only get two people. Mr. Nelson asked to see the pictures of water going over the bridge. Supt. Bradley stated he doesn't have pictures of the water going over the bridge he has pictures of the next day what it did to the road. Mr. Nelson stated we have neighbors that were standing on the bridge before you got there and the water was already rescinding when you got there. Supt. Bradley stated it wasn't going over the bridge it was right up level with the bridge. The ice was blocking it. Mr. Nelson asked why he did that. Supt. Bradley stated because the water was going down the road. Mrs. Nelson stated you also ripped up the iron. Supt. Bradley stated how does he knows what that's going to do all he knows is he is trying to save the road. He is peeling the boards off the bridge to get under there so he can clean

Councilwoman Ryan asked if the ice was jammed up to the bridge also. Supt. Bradley stated absolutely both sides. Councilwoman Ryan stated so the ice could have done damage too. Supt. Bradley stated he doesn't think the ice did much damage it was mostly, what happed is the snow pack got in there and what ice came down jammed up there. There was no way, he cut the beams that was a judgment call, I take full responsibility for it. Mr. Nelson stated yes it is a judgment call. Councilman John Thomas stated he thinks what everyone has to understand here, he is familiar with the property, and he's familiar with Joe L'Episcopo's property. In the last 20 years its probably been logged at least four times and this last time it was logged hard so you have a lot more runoff there then what you had in the past. It's not a slow runoff anymore it's a bad run off. Mr. Nelson stated you are absolutely right and he also believes since that straight run canal, it's basically a canal now. Councilman John Thomas stated that was also done to elevate, we talking about a lot of timber cut hard. Mr. Nelson stated its straight run now and its just rips down there. Supt. Bradley stated also the last huge water we had was level with the road and it did take out the road, it made the ditch deeper without a question but our road was saved the second time. The water was right to the top of that if that hadn't been there our road would have been gone again. It would have cost us \$50,000.00 to repair it again. It would have been ridiculous. After we fixed it that's when it got extremely deep, it was level. If we hadn't done that it would have been a huge mess again. It takes debris from there and goes down further and plugs up another bridge and then we have more damage. That's what exactly happened the last time. Mr. Nelson stated he actually did a lot of studying before he built; he has some engineering background on main construction. He owns a small steel business and he measured all the bridges up and down that road and you have a 4 foot by 7 foot, about 28 square foot of volume that can go through. His bridge is about 7X11, which is 77 square foot of volume that can go through, he is double the town bridges. He made sure the water could go through there. Supt. Bradley stated that has nothing to do with what happened 20 or 30 years ago when they put those bridges in. They are trying to elevate that, that's been nothing but a nightmare up there because of the beaver dams. Mr. Nelson stated it's a acclimated knowledge you learn as you go he understands that.

Councilman John Thomas stated we are not talking 40-50 acres we are talking 100's of acres, that is all uphill from there that has been cut pretty had, what use to be a slow runoff is no longer a slow runoff. Mr. Nelson stated when we had storm Irene it was unusual weather. Mr. Nelson stated he feels their property has been affected considerably from this, the canal that's cut in and now their bridge that's been removed and its kind of a tragedy for them. It was expensive. He built the bridge himself.

He has blueprints that were approved and his cost was \$5000.00 and he has a quite extensive repair now because the beams are damaged, twisted, twined and all the wood, he is probably going to put a grading on top instead of wood that will allow the water, if it does get jammed up, the water can go through the bridge. It's a tough call because he feels other measures could have been taken and less damage could occur. Supt. Bradley stated the only thing he could think that could have been better would be possibly to dig a trench around into our road and get it going back the other way. Mr. Nelson stated the steel is really bad. Supt. Bradley stated in the middle of the night he only has two guys and he has roads washing out everywhere, what is he going to do. That wasn't the only spot he had problems with either. Supt. Bradley asked Attorney Cooper what our legal. Attorney Cooper stated he doesn't know where we are going to go from here but he thinks for the record it's important. It took him 10 minutes into this discussion to figure out what happened and this is the way he understands it happened is, you had this structure and there was an ice and snow build up underneath acting as a dam for the creek causing water to back up and threatening the road, Supt. Bradley couldn't get to the snow and ice without removing the decking of the bridge. Correct? Supt. Bradley stated correct. Attorney Cooper stated you did move the decking, how did you get the snow and ice out of there. Supt. Bradley stated we put the bucket in there. Attorney Cooper stated you used some heavy equipment to go down through the bridge now and removed the blockages. Supt. Bradley stated absolutely, Correct. Attorney Cooper stated if these people are going to sue the town he would like that on record so that these minutes get shown to the judge he will understand that happened just for that purpose. Now Attorney Cooper stated he will say to Mr. Nelson we did discuss this at the last Board meeting and in his opinion if the town were to offer to assist you to repair this bridge it would be lawful for them to do so. It wouldn't be a gift of town property to a private citizen prohibited by the Constitution of the State because they did something affirmative to damage the property, if it was done legally, which he believes it was. He thinks the Highway Supt. has the right to enter private property to abate a nuisance like that to protect a town road. But never the less it was an affirmative action. The town employees left you with, the situation you have. That was discussed at our last meeting and the town board said they were afraid that if they under took this repair that it would cause a precedent that they would find themselves fixing everybody's infrastructure when the Highway Supt. had to do something in an emergency situation and we weren't prepared to take that step. That's where it was left last month and he isn't elected by anybody and its up to the town board to decide how to spend the taxpayer's money. Supt. Bradley stated we do have extra grading down by the highway garage if the board wants to surplus that cheap to them its up to the board. He did mention that to Mr. Nelson at one point. He didn't know if the board would want to do that. It is something we aren't using, we may use it at some point he doesn't know but there is a bunch sitting down there, it's been there for years.

Mrs. Nelson stated in other words if we put another bridge up, you have the right to rip it down again. Attorney Cooper stated if the same circumstances presented themselves he guesses he would have to answer that yes.

Supt. Bradley stated its no difference then a culvert. We rip culverts up. Mr. Nelson asked if they get replaced. Supt. Bradley stated a lot of then don't.

Mr. Nelson stated it's a weird thing that the town bridges would get destroyed and the town would fix the bridge but they wouldn't fix a private property bridge if it was destroyed, he finds that odd.

Supt. Bradley stated it would lead to a town road so we would have to fix it we're obligated to do that. He knows what he is saying, other measures could have been taken he definitely wants to make that clear, we could have dug a trench around it, he thought it would be cheaper to pull the boards off of it. Mrs. Nelson stated cheaper for who. Supt. Bradley stated he can't foresee the future. Mr. Nelson stated we're not here to cause trouble; we love Stony Creek we're here just to see if there was something and wanted to hear what the town's response would be. Attorney Cooper asked Supt. Bradley how the superstructure of the bridge got bent. Supt. Bradley stated it was bolted down pretty good. Attorney Cooper stated so when you pulled up the decking. Supt. Bradley stated they were breaking and probably twined them. Attorney Cooper asked if it bent the superstructure. Supt. Bradley stated it didn't bend the steel Mr. and Mrs. Nelson stated yes it did. Supt. Bradley stated he pulled the boards what got bent got bent.

Mr. Nelson stated they are going to fix the bridge. Supervisor Thomas asked Supt. Bradley if that had enough decking or grating. Supt. Bradley stated he thinks there is enough and have plenty. Supervisor Thomas asked Mr. Nelson if they would be interested in that. Mr. Nelson stated yes, he actually wants to put grading on it. He thinks it would help in case ice does get under it. Supt. Bradley stated if you had to buy the grating it would be a lot of money. Mr. Nelson stated yes, he has a small steel business he knows the exact cost of steel. Attorney Cooper asked Supt. Bradley if this is surplus from the highway dept. Supt. Bradley stated yes, we are replacing a lot bridges with wood and trying to get away from grating, it holds forever. They have Gill Road that won't go anywhere and Wolf Pond Road that still has grating.

Supervisor Thomas asked if that is something the board would entertain. The Board agreed. Councilman John Thomas stated he would say if you install it that you install it so it could be lifted up because obviously the property above it isn't going to grow back for 15-20 years to get it back to where it was if its not logged again. The quick round is not going to go away, it's going to happen every year until this property grows back up.

Mr. Nelson stated we owned it for 10 years and it was supposed to have been 12 years before that and that's 22 years now. Supt. Bradley stated there are beaver dams up there too.

Councilwoman Ryan asked when the bridge was built. Mr. Nelson stated it was 10 years ago, 2004. They brought the property in 2003. When they brought the property they were told it was logged 12 years before that.

Supt. Bradley stated again the beaver dams are the biggest problem up there.

Councilman John Thomas stated it was logged just this last Fall. They were just finishing up.

Councilman Nathan Thomas stated Councilman John Thomas is talking about Joe L'Episcopo's place and Mr. Nelson is talking about his property. Councilman John Thomas stated the water from L'Episcopo's place, that's what's causing the flooding on his property it's the runoff of Joe L'Episcopo's. There is probably 300-400 acres there that's been cut pretty hard. Mr. Nelson stated just recently? Councilman John Thomas stated yes. They just finished up this Fall. Like he said it's a quick runoff, it's not something that 's not going to fix itself in a few years.

Mr. Nelson stated he sees the water up to the banks all the time. They were there during Storm Irene, it was right at the top, it was ready to come over the top but it didn't. Supt. Bradley stated if you saw that then you know what would have happened if that wasn't there, the so-called trench, if that wasn't there it would have taken the road out again. Attorney Cooper stated that again when the judge reads these minutes, to make it clear that Storm Irene happened in the middle of Summer and this event happened when there was big blocks of ice and snow jammed under the bridge, which is a big difference.

It wasn't an Irene Hurricane but the consequences were as bad or worse. Mr. Nelson stated there are 4-5 bridges on that road, town bridges. Councilman Nathan Thomas stated but with the placement of the trench now most of those bridges are handling a lot less volume of water. Supt. Bradley stated two of them are. Councilman Nathan Thomas stated and as far as debris from the bridges that's all washed down stream from Mr. Nelsons Bridge that's going to cause the next flood. Mr. Nelson did say he was going to try to go down and get it out. Mr. Nelson stated yes he was going to go and get the boards they are down the stream.

Supt. Bradley stated the culvert by Mark Thomas's, which will have to be upgraded probably. This had been crushed from the last storm, the town did it driving over it, it's so low to get to the other side, so at some point when they do it, it will be upgraded.

Attorney Cooper stated he doesn't know if Supervisor Thomas wants to handle this informally or if he wants to have a resolution of the board declaring this decking Supt. Bradley is talking about as surplus. Supervisor Thomas stated yes he would declare the decking as surplus to accommodate Mr. Nelson's bridge.

077-13. A resolution was made by Supervisor Thomas seconded by Councilman Gill to declare the decking stored at the Highway Garage as surplus material to accommodate Mr. Nelson's on repairing his bridge on VanAuken Road. Roll call vote, all in favor.

Supervisor Thomas stated he trust that will help Mr. Nelson and sure it will. Mr. Nelson stated they will go and take a look at it; he isn't sure what it is but will take a look at it and see if it will work for them. Attorney Cooper thanked them for coming. Mr. Nelson thanked them for listening and wanted to introduce themselves, they will be retiring here. Councilman John Thomas stated it's a good place to retire.

Attorney Cooper stated he would like to note the passing of Bill Liebl and as he said to the gentleman here he has never been elected to anything here in Stony Creek so he tried to keep a harness on his tongue and not to offer opinions within regard to policy to offer at least not too often that the board gets annoyed. Bill could be a pain in the neck, prolonging the meetings, going off on tangents and stuff but he thinks we all agree we aren't going to see a character like him for a long time. He heart was certainly 100% in the town. He loved the town and the history, and the people and stuff and he thinks it would appropriate for the Board to remark concerning his serve and maybe consider sending a letter to his family or something like that. Councilwoman Ryan stated she has his documents from the town, she has been going through it and there are some things she wants to bring in when she goes through it.

Supt. Bradley reported he would like to discuss the salt budget. Mr. Aldrich was here last month and there is another person he would like to have know what is going on here. The town's salt budget is lower then any other town. Our snow removal budget is lower then any other town in Warren County. Then any other town, lower by far. So just for the record he usually budgets 1800 ton we used 1200 ton, we may have had 200 ton left in the shed. Thurman has used 2000 tons and they are about the same mileage as we are. Warrensburg is 105,000 tons they have the same exact amount of roads as we do. They have to buy sand also. Luzerne is 135,000. They used 800 ton they had a huge surplus left from last year, which is hard to go with that one.

Thurman's snow removal budget is \$150,000.00. The Town of Stony Creek's snow removal budget is \$80,000.00 it's not ridiculous. The Highway Budget has not really gone up. When he first started it went up a good jaunt, then it went back down and we pretty much stayed level for at least 6 years. The point 4's not the wages. The point 4's within \$10,000.00 stayed the same. Fuel has doubled, salt has gone up, blacktop has gone up and we are staying with it. Johnsburg has 90 miles of road, 20 miles more of road than the Town of Stony Creek and their budget is 1.3 million dollars for the Highway. The Town of Stony Creek's whole budget is 105 million dollars for the Highway and General Fund. So if you want to know about snow removal we are about even. The county roads we get reimbursed for that. The Town of Johnsburg doesn't because all their roads are town roads and the majority of those are dirt roads. He just wants people to know we are the lowest as far as snow removal in the county and would like this for the record.

A motion was made by Councilman Gill Seconded by Councilman Nathan Thomas to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 PM all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Harrington
Town Clerk