

May 20, 2014

The regular Town Board meeting of the Town of Stony Creek was held on May 20, 2014.

Supervisor Frank Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with members present:

Councilman Nathan Thomas

Councilwoman Doreen Ryan

Councilman John Thomas

Councilman Carl Thomas

Attorney James Cooper

April 15, 2014 minutes corrections:

Page 158 Councilwoman Ryan stated she just didn't want to feel that the school is overloaded.

Page 162 we lose by adverse adjustment in our equalization rate .

Councilman Carl Thomas stated Warrensburg School is 27% higher then Luzerne.

Page 163 take out extension on Murray Road and insert boarding on harrassment.

A motion was made by Supervisor Thomas seconded by Councilman John Thomas to accept the April 15, 2014 minutes with these corrections. All in favor, motion carried.

May 5, 2014 minutes

A motion was made by Councilman Carl Thomas seconded by Councilman Nathan Thomas to accept the May 5, 2014 minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

077-14. A resolution was made by Councilwoman Ryan seconded by Councilman John Thomas to pay the General Fund bills in the amount of \$41,785.88.

Discussion:

Councilman Nathan Thomas had a question on voucher 74 Tax Collector's mileage in the amount of \$363.50. Our closest bank in Lake Luzerne at 25 miles and a lot of deposits were made at the Glens Street bank at 50 miles. Is this something we can regulate in the future? It seems like double the mileage for every deposit. Supervisor Thomas stated yes, we can not pay it, that would regulate it.

Councilman Nathan Thomas stated thats the only bill he had a questions on. Its double the mileage on every transport when there is a bank local at Luzerne. Supervisor Thomas agreed and stated there is one in Warrensburg. Councilman Nathan Thomas stated either way is 25 miles and there was a quite a few that were 50 miles to Glens Falls. There is \$14.00 for the Luzerne and Warrenburg deposits and doubled for the other. There was 11 trips to Glens Falls verus three short ones (2-Luzerne 1-Warrensburg) \$14.00 per trip but eleven thats quite a bit of money.

Supervisor Thomas asked if they wanted to pay it or adjust it. Councilman Nathan Thomas asked if it was policy to go to the closer bank or is that the Tax Collector's discretion. Supervisor Thomas stated he thinks its at her discretion. He didn't recall it being Glens St. all the time before. Councilman John Thomas stated we should at least ask her to make the deposits closer then far away.

Councilman John Thomas asked about the Cedarwood Engineering voucher in the amount of \$840.00. He would like to know about the environmental fee for the landfill. Is that the yearly thing? Supervisor Thomas stated that was the report that DEC required. Technically the town should have been doing it every year but now they have given the town a waiver. They are insisting we do a report and he's not qualified to do the report. Councilman John Thomas asked if it's something we have to do every year. Supervisor Thomas stated Yes.

Attorney Cooper asked if this was the well monitoring. Supervisor Thomas stated yes. Councilman Carl Thomas asked if this was for this year? Supervisor Thomas stated it was for 2013 that would be the data they had.

Supervisor Thomas reported the Rose and Kiernan Insurance bill was \$3.36 more. The broker recommended we increase the Bond Capacity on the Tax Collector from \$100,000.00 to \$300,000.00 and increase the deductible. The difference in the premium is \$3.36 for a total of \$23,632.47

Supervisor Thomas reported the price on the Toshiba Copier was around \$3200.00. There was a \$99.00 for a surge protector. They said that was refundable, which he doesn't know what they mean by that. He does think if the surge protector goes out they will replace it. This copier has a hard drive so it will need a surge protector to protect it. Roll call vote, all in favor

078-14. A resolution was made by Councilman John Thomas seconded by Councilwoman Ryan to pay the Highway Fund bills in the amount of \$5,973.65. Roll call vote, all in favor.

Town Clerk report:

Conservation licenses	\$ 4.14
Certified Death Copies	20.00
Marriage License	<u>17.50</u>
Total Town Clerk fees	41.64
Dog licenses	<u>77.00</u>
Total Town Revenues to Supervisor	\$118.64
NYS Ag and Markets	15.00
NYS Dept. of Health	22.50
NYS Environmental Conservation	<u>70.86</u>
Total disbursed	\$227.00

Correspondence:

Dog Control Log for March and April, 2014

Eve Wenger Stony Creek Free Library President-permission to use the town park for the concession stand and 50/50 raffle during the "Music in the Park and Mountain Days Celebration".

Cindy Cameron-permission to use the Town Hall for an Anniversary Party on Saturday June 14, 2014. also requesting Occupancy Bed Tax funds in the amount of \$500.00 to be used to fund this years booklet, which will include advertising, layout and design for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Ranches, Rodeos and Wranglers event to be held on Sunday July 27, 2014 at the Painted Pony Ranch.

A motion was made by Councilman Nathan Thomas seconded by Councilwoman Ryan authorizing the following:

Stony Creek Library to hold their concession stand and 50/50 Raffle during the "Music in the Park" and the Mountain Days Celebration.

Cindy Cameron use of the town hall Saturday June 14, 2014 for an Anniversary Party.

All in favor, motion carried.

A motion was made by Councilman Nathan Thomas seconded by Councilwoman Ryan authorizing Tonya Hathway to use the Town Pavilion on May 31, 2014 from 12:00-8:00PM. All in favor, motion carried.

Old Business:

Highway; Paving

Supervisor Thomas stated they discussed it quite a bit last month looking for suggestions on what we should do.

We have \$128,000.00 so it seems we could pave something and thinks Supt. Bradley is looking for the Board to point him in the direction.

Councilman Nathan Thomas stated Supt. Bradley was talking Cudney Hill and Grist Mill Roads. Supt. Bradley stated he suggested Cudney Hill, Grist Mill, Louis Waite and whatever is left to start up Lanfear and next we will have to do Roaring Branch Road, the section where they did the binder, but again with this whole county fiasco. He told the Board before that from now on they will tell him what to pave and how they want him to do it. He will make the suggestion but he doesn't want to pave over crap anymore.

Supervisor Thomas stated wait a minute your the Highway Superintendent. Supt. Bradley stated he knows, he is just saying, he wants to cover his butt and he just doesn't want to waste money going over top of bad stuff. He suggest we fix it, do it right. We can't do it all right, thats the problem. Supervisor Thomas stated thats all well and fine but. Supt. Bradley stated he doesn't want to be just hung out too, the Board are the ones telling him. Supervisor Thomas stated your not going to cover your butt with my butt. Supt. Bradley stated he knows what he is saying but its gone on long enough especially with the fiasco out here (on Hadley Road) and what they are going to be doing on Harrisburg Road. He doesn't feel comfortable with just slapping blacktop on it anymore. The roads are getting far behind. Councilwoman Ryan stated Supt. Bradley said the road was last paved when he was like 16 years old. Supt. Bradley asked Supervisor Thomas if he knew when it was last paved. Supervisor Thomas stated no. Supt. Bradley stated he knows what he's saying but the Board is the final discision makers. The Board can say what roads they want him to pave. Most Towns take the Highway Superintendents suggestion and the Board says this is what we want paved. It wasn't like that in the past. You always said do what you think is right or whatever, that's fine. He doesn't know of any road then what he told the Board that can be topped anymore. Maybe they can do a lot of Lanfear just being topped. As far as that goes theres going to be a lot of it that will have to be sectioned at least ripped up and redone right. Supervisor Thomas stated he would like to get it nailed down on what they're going to do. Supt. Bradley stated Cudney Hill, Grist Mill, Louis Waite up to where they left off and start on Lanfear and go as far as they can with what money is left over. He is sure Supervisor Thomas has heard, they will not be using the county, he'll be using Hadley. It will be cheaper unless someone will make him use the county and he isn't going to be pigheaded and say he isn't going to do what the Board tells him to do. But as far as he is concerned he doesn't want anything to do with that county anymore. Councilwoman Ryan stated they said they were going to do something a certain way and they didn't do it. Supt. Bradley stated he told Supervisor Thomas and knows the Board has seen it and maybe you don't know the whole particulars of it and he has called more paving companies that do this for a living and he asked them if he was out of line. He knows he is right but tell him whats going on. The County just paved the road and didn't shim it. When you pave the road and don't shim it theres no compaction. So the rollers eight feet wide and you just paved the whole road over wheel ruts. The roller goes over it, it bridged it. So now when the cars go over the wheel tracks it's going to be pushed tight down in a matter of a couple years, if it doesn't happen by Spring. What they should have done was shimed it, used a small roller, shimed it all up, got it level and they didn't. There is no compaction where the wheel ruts were. Kevin and Jeff are telling him no way. He was nuts and he's not nuts. The seam down the center in spots are ½ inch high all the way down through there. On Louis Waite Road they never rolled any of the blacktop edges. They will probably come back and do the blacktop driveways, he would hope they would. The shoulder stone they just put down, they didn't roll any of it in the driveways and its coming on the road already. They had the roller and backhoe there, they could have rolled it in with the tires. There's bumps and humps. He asked them and even marked them and they promised him they were going to shim thoses roads and they didn't. He had it out with them and it's nonsense what we're getting, we're getting crap. We've asked to fix the culvert bumps, they didn't do that. They say there going to do this and they do that. We're getting the short end of the stick every year. This is a crap job. It's better then it was 100%, but it isn't going to last and that's what he doesn't want to run into. He isn't

wrong on what they did and don't care what Kevin and Jeff tell him or Supervisor Thomas. They did wrong out there.(Hadley Road)

Supervisor Thomas stated it's county road. Their the County Superintendent and Deputy. They have a foreman that does the paving they did it the way they do it. You have your opinion and they have their opinion.

Supt. Bradley stated he's just looking out for the town. He's drove on it for 30 years and in 30 years it will be tore apart again. He doesn't know if the Town Boards should be saying "why are we getting the short end of the stick". He has phone numbers they can call and he took pictures of what they paved over. They are going to laugh and say this is ridiculous, this is waste of money. He thinks he should be going to Channel 6 News Waste Watchers and say look what they just did over here, it's a waste of money and can get people to back him up. He doesn't want to get in to all of that but it fires him up. We're getting the short end of the stick everytime they come over here. We're not getting our share. This is crap work, it's not perfect by no means and no ones perfect by no means. That is just uncalled for.

Councilwoman Ryan stated its a big long span and she guesses time will tell.

Supt. Bradley stated the bump out front, he marked it and asked if they could shim and fill the bumps. They dug it up Monday and paved it on Thursday. Yes, it is their road but they should answer back to the taxpayers. He's a taxpayer and if he has to use that as an excuse, he's complaining as a taxpayer. He has complained and they're not listening to him. He isn't the only one complaining in town. There are a lot of them and he is going to go around and have them call the county just like Jeff and Kevin want them to do. Thats what they told him. Have them call them and thats what he is going to do.

The paving is up to the Board and he will give his suggestion from now on and you can tell him which way to proceed, the expensive or cheap way. That's basically what its going to come down to.

Supervisor Thomas stated that's your choice, again your the Highway Superintendent and your not going to use my butt to cover yours. Supt Bradley stated he doesn't think he is using his butt.

Supervisor Thomas stated when you sit there and say your're going to tell me how to do the roads. If we say no don't do it that way, then you go out there and say well I wanted to do it this way but Frank and the Town Board told me to do it this way. I've been here to long. Supt. Bradley stated no, he is using the Town Board not just Supervisor Thomas and stated you don't have to get heated about it.

Supervisor Thomas stated he's not getting heated, he's just telling you. Supt. Bradley stated you guys are his boss as far as telling him how to run a crew and can tell him about the overtime and can sure as heck tell him what bridges need to be fixed. He will tell the Board what bridges and what roads need to be paved and how you want him to proceed. Do you want him to reclaim them and do them right?

We can't afford to do them all. Thats a big expense. Thats a \$10,000.00 expense per mile. Does the Town Board say, yeah we want that done or we don't. I don't want to take and just do a mile each year or a half mile each year and say hey Neil what's going on here your not getting these roads paved.

In the past they never got along, they didn't work together. He is trying to work with the Board.

Tell him what to do. Theres a lot of stuff here he hasn't done before and probably wouldn't be bothering the Board with. He is trying to let the Board know what's going on. No one comes down to the garage to see how much money we spend. Supervisor Thomas stated we see how much money you spend every month. Supt. Bradley stated you don't see where it's going. You don't see what's going on down there at times. You see the bill and say what the heck is that for and complain about it in your head, but no one goes down there and says show me what's going on.

There are a couple culverts that are going and at some point they are going to have to be replaced.

He mentioned it to Supervisor Thomas the other day. He doesn't know what to do with that. Maybe we should be using CHIPS money. With FEMA stuff we got behind and he needs tires all over the place.

Supervisor Thomas stated then you're going to have to come in here with specifics and not just ramble on back and forth with a culvert here, culvert there, this road, that road. Come in here with a list of specifics. This culvert is bad on this road, this bridge needs this, this is what I recommend.

Than the Board can work and make an intelligent decision. We can't sit here with you going here and going there, bouncing all over the place and make any kind of decision.

Supt. Bradley stated we are getting to that point as where stuff is falling way behind. It never use to be like that, it's just getting way behind. The price of fuel has gone up, the price of blacktop has gone up, the price of salt has gone up, but his budget hasn't gone up. Since he's been here his budget has gone up but in reality it hasn't gone up. He knows we can't afford it. That's how the taxes work. In reality we are almost paying five years ago exactly what his budget is now. We raised it a little, the wages, but as far as the .4's(Contractuals) it is what it is and everything is going up. He isn't doing anything different. He could let the trucks go or let the roads go. He figures the trucks at this point are worth keeping up where they're still up to par. We could be taking money out of machinery and putting it more in the roads. Then we'll be running into the opposite on the latter end of it. Yes he will come in and give the Board an actually detailed list.

Supervisor Thomas stated that's your decision and that's why you're elected. Supt. Bradley stated he is doing what he thinks is right. Supervisor Thomas stated ok, that's fine.

Supt. Bradley stated the roads are getting behind big time, that's all he can tell you. It's to do with these two storms and the budget not going up. It's getting tough to keep up with it.

Supervisor Thomas stated the CHIPS is higher this year. That code is higher than it's been.

Supt. Bradley stated it cost \$90,000.00 to do a mile, it's a little more if you want to figure the top. So to do a mile correct you want to figure it's a good \$90,000.00 and we have \$118,000.00, He has a mile and a half marked out.

Supervisor Thomas stated we have \$128,000.00. Supt. Bradley stated he figured a half mile on Lanfear, he doesn't know if he'll get that far. He should be using that for bridges also and we are neglecting a lot of that. He is trying to get as much done as he can on all that stuff. He will give a more detailed list of what is going to be coming up. He has talked to some of the Board Members on and off about what's going on. Then there're gone and then you have a new set of Board Members. He has gone through this in detail with Beaver (Dale Aldrich), Warren Braman and Bill Liebl. Then you get a whole new crew and he tries to explain it all over again. Maybe there should be something in writing. That's what he'll start doing. Supervisor Thomas stated yes it would be the best way to do it, that way we'll know exactly what you have in mind and then make an intelligent decision not just, ok we'll just do that. Supt. Bradley stated we're not making a decision on the paving. He is going to do just the top overlay, mile and a half. Next year it's a different story, he doesn't know what he's going to do.

Supervisor Thomas stated we should have the same amount of money, it may be \$10,000.00 less.

Supt. Bradley stated he is just at a loss with the roads, he doesn't know where to go. Supervisor Thomas stated we have to pick somewhere. We can't do them all at once. Supt. Bradley stated these are fine. In the future he doesn't know what to do, we're getting far behind. We had a financial crisis before. At one point we didn't have any money before just the CHIPS and very little increase throughout the year.

Supervisor Thomas stated if you recall we paid cash for a truck. He told the Board we should bond this truck. Supt. Bradley stated he agreed with him. Supervisor Thomas stated three months later we got the rain storm of 100 years. We got about seven inches of rain and it washed out ten roads. We ran out of money, beyond money. Supt. Bradley stated Supervisor Thomas is 100% right. He wouldn't disagree on that we should have bonded the truck. One person spoke up and said this is the way he wanted to do it and everyone listened to him except Supervisor Thomas. You were 100% right on that whole call. He wasn't pushing either way, we just needed the truck. He didn't care if you bonded it or paid cash.

Supervisor Thomas stated we do have FEMA money. They paid us \$96,000.00 more dollars and stated that Supt. Bradley wasn't going to do the ford correct? Supt. Bradley stated right. He assumed that we are going to keep most of that in the Fund Balance so that we have a Reserve.

Supervisor Thomas stated right. Supt. Bradley stated your're not going to use that money into the roads at this point until we get the Fund Balance back up to where it should be. Supervisor Thomas agreed and stated we will probably lose, Supt. Bradley stated \$10,000.00. \$15,000.00 max. because of the ford. Whatever they decide, it could be a while. Supervisor Thomas stated so that should be back in the Fund Balance. Supt. Bradley stated right, back to where it should be, 10% of his operating budget, correct? Supervisor Thomas stated probably.

Supt. Bradley stated he is looking for some direction here. The roads are getting bad it cost 2.5 million dollars to get all the roads back to normal. Supervisor Thomas stated we don't have that.

Supt. Bradley stated obviously. So you know where he is coming from. He will do what he can do.

Councilman John Thomas stated he hasn't heard any complaints from anybody. He doesn't know if anybody else has. He knows Grist Mill definitely needs it and Cudney Hill definitely needs it and has needed it for a long time. He thinks those are two good choices to do. He talked to him about paving over stuff that he knows needs to be dug up, stuff that needs to be fixed. That is kind of a waste of money. The way to run a business is if something needs to be fixed, you fix it so you don't have to go back in three-four years and repair something.

Supt. Bradley stated he's just letting the Board know its going to be more money going that route and less that gets done. If you don't think that is good just say no he is just giving his opinion.

Supervisor Thomas stated it sounds like we have a plan. Supt. Bradley stated we have one for this year, no problem.

Youth:

Councilman John Thomas stated we had a timesheet that wasn't taken care of last or two months ago. We talked about taken care of that and we didn't. So whatever we're going to decide to do with it, we need to make a decision one way or another. Supervisor Thomas stated you make the decision then. Councilman Nathan Thomas stated that was the timesheet for Cheyenne? Councilman John Thomas stated it was the timesheet for Cheyenne, it was turned in, it was not paid. We need to make a decision one way or another as a Board.

Supervisor Thomas stated no, he thinks at that time she wasn't the Youth Director. As he recalls, maybe he is wrong he will have to look at it again. Councilman John Thomas stated he is just saying it needs to be taken care of. We can't leave someone hanging like that. Supervisor Thomas stated if she wasn't the Youth Director we shouldn't be paying it. Supervisor Thomas stated he will check it and if that's what the Board wants him to do is pay it, say so.

Cemetery; Dean:

Attorney Cooper asked if Councilman John Thomas did the metes and bounds on the Dean Cemetery? Councilman John Thomas stated that Councilman Carl Thomas actually marked it out. He went down the other day with him and he has to get the measurements. It is staked out, there's a lot of old jogs. Attorney Cooper stated if he gets it over to him maybe he'll have a draft deed for the Board at the next meeting and we can vote on whether the Board accepts it. It will be coming from Councilman John Thomas .

Committee Report:

Dean Trails:

Supervisor Thomas reported the signs are here. The Phase Two across the road is somewhat laid out. Last Tuesday they wandered the ground for 3-4 hours. A gentleman from Queensbury, George Hilton is going to come and go around with a GPS for the trails. Councilman John Thomas stated he was unaware there was a phase two, he thought it was going to be trails in what we were doing.

Councilwoman Ryan stated no there is a whole second part to it. Supervisor Thomas stated each side. Attorney Cooper stated it even includes a pavilion out over the pond with a viewing platform.

Councilwoman Ryan stated she would like to go out and take a look at it.

Councilman John Thomas stated that money is all part of, he hasn't seen it yet. Where does it come from? Supervisor Thomas stated what come from. Councilman John Thomas stated to pay for it.

Supervisor Thomas stated it's a grant from the State through the Warren County from the Department of State. It's a 50/50 matching grant, that's what it is.

Supt. Bradley asked how much have we paid on that so far, do we know?

Supervisor Thomas stated he is going to say, he doesn't know right off the top of his head, but guessing he's going to say probably \$70-80,000.00 into it. We paid half of it.

Councilman Carl Thomas stated the second phase is that a second trail. Supervisor Thomas stated right, it's on the opposite side of the road. Councilman Carl Thomas stated he isn't familiar with it at all. He would like to look at it. Councilwoman Ryan stated she knows its going to be bordering other peoples property. She would like to go and see because she knows some people have questions of being too close to properties.

Supt. Bradley stated he talked to a couple members of the Board and Supervisor Thomas. You're trying to keep it nature like correct? Supervisor Thomas stated correct.

Supt. Bradley stated he is building 400 and some feet away from the platform that's going to put out there. He is concerned about his property. He is 150 feet away from the trail where he is building. It has been APA approved. He is looking for other suggestions. He's not trying to cause trouble, he doesn't care if people are over there. He is looking at his privacy. Is it possible to even go on the other side of the pond? Is there any other options besides having the lookout looking at his house?. He knows it's not his property and people shake their heads, but he is concerned about his privacy. He doesn't know if the guy from the State or whoever helped you lay that out knew he was building right there. He is the biggest landowner that's affected by the whole thing, besides the people who brought Shultz's on the ladder end and you did move it back from his pond. Supervisor Thomas stated right. Supt. Bradley stated because he is going to have the same problem. He isn't threatening but he doesn't want to look at a swamp hole, but there wouldn't be a pond there if it wasn't for him. There wouldn't be nothing there just a stream bed. The whole dam is on his property, it's a matter of popping a plug and it will be all alders. He doesn't want to look at that and he doesn't want to look at people standing there causing him trouble by looking in binoculars in his windows. He's 500 feet away from him, which isn't a long distance. He is going to be in plain sight. He would like to go with the Board and look at it. The back side would be just as nice. He doesn't know, it's just an option. He is worried about coming on his property from 150 feet borderline. There will be trees put there and a sign.

Supervisor Thomas stated he did say they are talking about planting cedar to border. Supt. Bradley stated the only problem with cedar is, that's a deer food, they will eat it right up.

Supervisor Thomas asked Supt. Bradley what he suggests, move the trail? Supt. Bradley stated he didn't know it's just the little platform people are going to be standing out there looking at his property.

Supervisor Thomas stated he understands.

Supt. Bradley stated you all have property set back and you want your privacy. He knows it's not his property and he's not saying no one can be on it, he just didn't want a boardwalk over the pond right at his window. He's not trying to be unreasonable and he wants to work with them but it's 150 away from his property line and is the biggest landowner that's affected, except Robert Bills but he has a road bordered. He would like some input when you go. He would like to be involved in it a little bit. When you laid it out he appreciated it over the knoll's, that's fine, it's just that one spot and it is a nice spot. He can't blame them for wanting to do something there.

Councilman John Thomas asked how much are we looking to put in that 50/50. How much is the town looking at putting into it. If there's numbers he hasn't seen them.

Supervisor Thomas stated he believes the total grant was \$220,000.00.

Councilman John Thomas stated so what is the second phase going to cost the town?

Supervisor Thomas stated he isn't sure, it isn't a handicap accessible trail.

Councilman Nathan Thomas stated from the booklet, which you probably haven't seen this, Councilman John Thomas stated no, he hasn't. Councilman Nathan Thomas stated, they're basically going to be brush hog paths and did it with the contour of the land. This was done in 2008 by Katie Johnson, it was a school project through ESF so the second side of the trails are working with the contour of the land. It's just going to be flagged out like brush hog paths and passes and the only real big platform is the one in the beaver swamp. Most of it is just laying out so people know where they are and out of the \$110,000.00 that's our 50%. A lot of that is volunteer hours anything the volunteer does. People donated equipment like table saws, electric saws, anything like that that was donated. They did rip and run last year of how much the rental value of each of those products were so as there building the trails, like Sandy bought a loader down for the blue stone, so the hours of the loader was part of the town's \$110,000.00. It's a lot of money. You see bills constantly for it but we get reimbursed at the State level for that other half of the money. The trails on the lower half it takes 15 minutes around through. It's 4½ feet wide with blue stone compacted, very ADA compliant was the main part of that side. Councilman John Thomas stated he thinks it's a good idea but needs to look at what it's going to actually cost us and how much usage of what we have already built and how much use is that getting to warrant how much more you want to invest on the other side.

Supervisor Thomas stated right, but it hasn't been promoted. He didn't want to promote the trails that weren't completed.

Carol LaGrasse asked how large the platform is. Supervisor Thomas stated he doesn't know it hasn't been decided, Why?

Carol LaGrasse stated she was curious about what it was for, how large it was, if it's a stopping place on a raised trail or what it is. Supervisor Thomas stated yes it's right next to the pond.

Carol LaGrasse asked if it is global with the pond? Supervisor Thomas stated not very much, maybe three or four feet. Carol LaGrasse stated but you don't know how large it is? Supervisor Thomas stated he doesn't think it's been decided, it's not going to be real large.

Councilman Nathan Thomas stated the one overlooking the creek has 10x8. Supervisor Thomas stated 10x10 or 8x8. Councilman Nathan Thomas stated with a picnic bench on one side, wheelchair accessible on the end and two bench seats. The other by the Colsons and Dean Homestead corner overlooking the creek, there's one platform in there as well.

Councilman Carl Thomas stated, they are in place now?

Councilman Nathan Thomas stated yes, all the platforms are in, the bridges are in, the hand rails are up. We're just waiting on the signs they ordered, which just came in and need to be placed.

Supervisor Thomas stated also on the creek side of the road there was a lot of wetlands flagged by the APA that require a lot more boardwalk that he thought was unnecessary.

Councilman Nathan Thomas stated they allowed the bridge over the boardwalk on the bases of the 6x6's and building a carry beam across based on the coverage of the wetland, just the impact of 6x6's instead of the impact of the whole bridge. Otherwise you would have ended up with gang plank length down through.

Supervisor Thomas stated so on the other side, if we build this platform, which we may move the trail, we might better do that.

Councilman John Thomas stated he thinks we should consider that whoever the landowner is. He wouldn't be happy and thinks you wouldn't if it was next to your property.

Supervisor Thomas stated you're looking at the platform, you're looking at one bridge. The trail won't be quite as wide as the ones on the other side. The blue stone would be out in the field and once you get in the woods it will just be a trail with marker signs.

Councilman Carl Thomas asked if the town will keep up the maintenance of that. Supervisor Thomas stated yes, that's part of the agreement with ESF. ESF Foundation owns the property.

Supervisor Thomas stated the town did buy a UTV that was \$11,000.00 and the State won't pay half of it and doesn't think they will. That was an expense directly on the town, which to him doesn't make a

lot of sense. The people working on it are temporary, part time people. They work 20 hours a week or less. When he started doing this he could have put it out to bid, hired a contractor and it would have been done by now. But his thoughts were these people are all from town, they wanted to do the work and he thought it better to keep the money here in town. That's the route we took.

Supt. Bradley asked how come we didn't have to go out to bid, usually anything over a certain amount of money has to go out to bid.

Supervisor Thomas stated because we are doing it in-house.

Supt. Bradley stated if we wanted to build a new town garage, the town can't do that we would have to send it out to bid or any major road project. It's like the county anything over \$200,000.00 a mile or any certain project over \$200,000.00, they can't do it, it has to be farmed out.

Supervisor Thomas will give the Town Board a copy of the Dean Trails Plan Booklet.

Supervisor Thomas stated the town also had a CFA Funding last Fall and received monies, which the contracts aren't quite complete yet. The county is drawing the contracts to the State and one is for the four-corners and believes there is about \$60,000.00 for engineering and for materials. The town is going to come up real quick here where they are approving an engineer or architect or whatever.

We're going to have to have some input of what they think should be there and how it should look. His thought on that was the town owns that quarter of the four-corners and thinks the town can do better than what's sitting there right now.

Councilman Nathan Thomas asked if we were approved for the bathroom at the Heritage Trail also.

Supervisor Thomas stated yes, that's in there for a bathroom.

Supervisor Thomas stated going back to the trails. When we just talked about this in 2007-2008. The idea wasn't that this isn't going to be all for the Town of Stony Creek but it is something and people will come and it is a start. Obviously if we can get more businesses started here let's do it. He is all ears and that is part of the job. He looked at it as an asset to the Town. The property was deeded to the ESF Foundation for them to raise money for the SUNY ESF. Either they kept the land or it became Forest Preserve and wouldn't be able to do anything with it. We had an opportunity and a partnership with ESF Foundation. We applied for a couple grants and finally received a grant and thinks it's a benefit to the town. It's good use to the land because otherwise once the Foundation gets done with it, if they ever are, it becomes Forest Preserve and we all know what that details.

New business:

Occupancy Bed Tax Funds:

Cindy Cameron request of \$500.00.

079-14. A resolution was made by Supervisor Thomas seconded by Councilman Nathan Thomas authorizing the request from Cindy Cameron for the expenditure of Occupancy Bed Tax funds in the amount of \$500.00 to be used to fund this year's booklet, which will include advertising, layout and design for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Ranches, Rodeos and Wranglers event to be held on Sunday July 27, 2014 at the Painted Pony Ranch. Roll call vote, all in favor.

Councilman Carl Thomas suggested that some of these booklets be put in the racks at the town hall.

Liquor License; Harrisburg Lake Lodge:

Supervisor Thomas reported that the Harrisburg Lake Lodge is requesting a 30-day waiver for their liquor license. They are required by law to submit a certified notice to the town notifying the town that they are applying for a liquor license.

080-14. A resolution was made by Supervisor Thomas seconded by Councilman Carl Thomas to waive the 30-day waiting period for a on-premises liquor license for the The Lodge at Harrisburg Lake LLC.

1200 Harrisburg Road Stony Creek, NY 12878, contingent to receiving the certified notification applying for a liquor license. Roll call vote, all in favor.

Supervisor Thomas asked the Board if they want to hold the 4<sup>th</sup> of July town-wide picnic again this year. The Board agreed to hold this again this year. The cost of it last year was about \$1500.00. Councilman Nathan Thomas asked about doing the postcards again this year along with the list of dates of who will be playing in the "Music in the Park". The Town Board agreed.

From the floor:

Cindy Cameron thanked the Town Board for the \$500.00 to be use toward the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Ranches, Rodeos and Wranglers event booklet.

Ashley Black speaking for the Stony Creek Fire Co. suggested changing the hours of the Memorial Day Parade. Lake Luzerne's Memorial Parade is at 11:00 in the morning and cuts pretty short sometimes to get back here by 1:00 PM. Being their serving a lunch why not have the parade in Stony Creek at 4:00 PM and have the supper hour. Supervisor Thomas thought it was a good idea. Mr. Black stated it would give Luzerne a chance to bring their equipment up also. Councilman John Thomas stated they only have a short period of time and its hard to have time to get to place to the the next. Councilwoman Ryan stated it gives other towns the opportunity to go to other places to participate. Supervisor Thomas stated he doesn't think we can do it this year but maybe next year. Luzerne use to have theirs at 5:00 PM.

Peter LaGrasse, Assessor would like to include the following letter, which are comments of the April 15, 2014 meeting regarding the section pertaining to Assessment. Page 161 in the minute book.

***Town of Stony Creek  
Board of Assessors  
Town Hall, 52 Hadley Rd, P.O. Box 96  
Stony Creek, N.Y. 12878***

***Peter La Grasse, Chairman  
Board of Assessors  
911Facilitator  
May 20, 2014***

Town Board and Supervisor Town of  
Stony Creek, N.Y.

Dear Sirs and Madam:

In the April 15, 2014 Town Board minutes on page 162 Councilman Carl Thomas states :  
"He has been told that if a reval is done and accepted it would freeze the State land, ... and this would stop the loss of the town from the transitional assessment."

I have to take exception to this statement. Section 545 of the Real property Tax Law provides for a "transitional assessment" and this section of law proscribes a<sup>5</sup>2% reduction in this assessment yearly.

While Councilman Carl Thomas would like to see a freeze in state land assessments and in transitional assessments, I feel it would be unsubstantiated conjecture to assume a reval would somehow provide an end run *around* the operation of state law.

Thank you for including these remarks in the deliberations of the Town Board.

Yours truly,



Peter La Grasse

Councilman Carl Thomas stated all he would say to this is, he is working trying to get information. That 2%, the transitional is there until it's paid out. He has a letter he's going to give to Assessor LaGrasse because he is talking to Albany about the State Land and will give him what information he knows. He apologized he hasn't been passing it all though because it's just gathering information, it's nothing specific at this time.

Supervisor Thomas reported the following:

The Adirondack Association of Towns and Villages did an update and a few years ago they did an Adirondack Park Regional Assessment. They received grant money to do the original study and they updated it. Copies will be given to the Board members and copies will be at the town hall.

Carol LaGrasse asked if we lost out gain population. Supervisor Thomas stated we gained a little bit.

#### Soil and Water

Jim Lieberum, Director of Soil and Water and is the Warren County's Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Medigation Coordinator. This is a Federal Program through FEMA, which you go around and try to assess the hazards that exist or potentially can exist. The idea is to get them into the Warren County Plan and then if there is a Federally Declared Disaster in the future these items that the municipalities have within the plan become eligible for funds to be repaired. So in your travels if you see something on the highway or whatever it might be that you would consider a hazard that could be medigated, taken care of, if we had the money to take care of it. They need to know that so they can get it on the sheet and get it into the county plan and it can become eligible for funding.

Supt. Bradley asked Supervisor Thomas if he was aware that the Supervisor in Thruman applied for \$50,000.00 last year and received it this year for the highway for paving, for CHIPS. That there was a grant for that. A grant that went into CHIPS. The Thruman Superintendent said she applied for it last year through Betty Little. He asked if Supervisor Thomas could talk to her and ask how she did that. Supervisor Thomas asked if it was for some of their repairs? Supt. Bradley stated he didn't know the particulars of it. Supervisor Thomas stated he never heard of getting a grant through CHIPS. Supt. Bradley stated its a grant for more paving. She did get it for more paving and asked if Supervisor Thomas saw her if he could ask her and see what she did. Supervisor Thomas stated yes. Supt. Bradley stated they did get their money from FEMA but she did apply for something else.

Councilman John Thomas asked if there was anybody at the county they could complain to about the pot holes where they quit paving on Hadley Road. Some are three layers deep and getting six inches

deep now. Supervisor Thomas stated he was told they were going to be fixed.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Ryan seconded by Councilman Nathan Thomas to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 PM. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Harrington  
Town Clerk