

February 18, 2014

The regular Town Board meeting of the Town of Stony Creek was held on February 18, 2014. Supervisor Frank Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM with members present:

Councilman Nathan Thomas
Councilwoman Doreen Ryan
Councilman John Thomas
Councilman Carl Thomas
Attorney James Cooper

January 21, 2014 minutes; corrections:

Page 119 change scrap to scrape, Page 122 change PASH to PESH, page 124 change 18 acres to 8 acres.

A motion was made by Councilman Nathan Thomas seconded by Councilwoman Ryan to accept the January 21, 2014 minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

049-14. A resolution was made by Councilman John Thomas seconded by Councilman Carl Thomas to pay the 2013 General Fund December Final bills in the amount of \$108.26. Roll call vote, all in favor.

050-14. A resolution was made by Councilwoman Ryan seconded by Councilman Carl Thomas to pay the 2013 Highway Fund December Final bill in the amount of \$1319.31. Roll call vote, all in favor.

051-14. A resolution was made by Councilman John Thomas seconded by Councilwoman Ryan to pay the 2014 General Fund bills in the amount of \$8006.41. Roll call vote, all in favor.

052-14. A resolution was made by Councilwoman Ryan seconded by Councilman Carl Thomas to pay the 2014 Highway Fund bills in the amount of \$27,256.33. Roll call vote, all in favor.

Town Clerk Report:

Copies	\$.25
Total Town Clerk fees	.25
Dog licenses	65.00
Total Town Revenues to Supervisor	\$65.25
NYS Agriculture and Markets	13.00
Total disbursed	\$78.25

Correspondence:

Stony Creek Free Library-permission to use the town hall on Friday March 21st, 2014 from 6-9 PM for a winter Concert, Saturday March 22nd, 2014 from 9AM-6PM for a Metalsmithing workshop and April 4th from 6-9 PM for their Winter Concert.

Susan Harrington Town Clerk Permission to go to the NYS Town Clerks Conference being held in Saratoga Springs April 27th-30th, 2014.

Supt. Bradley posting of weight limit on town roads.

Brett Benansky; Notice of Claim regarding Tax Map 233-1-53, the town removing trees on S. Harrisburg Road and Murray Road.

A motion was made by Councilman Nathan Thomas seconded by Councilwoman Ryan authorizing the Stony Creek Free Library to use the town hall on Friday March 21st, 2014 from 6-9 PM for a winter Concert, Saturday March 22nd, 2014 from 9AM-6PM for a Metalsmithing workshop and April 4th from 6-9 PM for their Winter Concert. All in favor, motion carried.

053-14. A resolution was made by Supervisor Thomas seconded by Councilwoman Ryan authorizing the Town Clerk to attend the NYS Town Clerks Association Conference in Saratoga Springs from April 27th-30th, 2014. Roll call vote, all in favor.

054-13. A resolution was made by Councilman John Thomas seconded by Councilman Carl Thomas authorizing the Superintendent of Highways to post the weight limit on town roads at his discretion as done in the past. Roll call vote, all in favor.

Supervisor Thomas reported the Notice of Claim was transferred to the insurance agent who transferred it to the insurance carrier.

Old Business:

Landfill; monitoring of Test wells:

Supervisor Thomas stated the town engaged in Cedarwood Engineering to request a waiver from NYS Department of Environmental Conservation so the town wouldn't have to test the monitoring wells four times a year and a letter dated January 27th was received from Dale Becker Engineer Geologist II of NYS DEC on January 28th, which Supervisor Thomas read.

He has reviewed a letter from Alice Hollerin of Cedarwood Engineering Services, which asked for a decrease in the frequency post closure ground water monitoring at subject site. The letter was prepared on behalf of the town and dated Sept. 3, 2013. Based upon water quality results that Cedarwood submitted and site visit on January 17, 2014. DEC agreed a reduced scope of monitoring is warranted consistent with 6NYCRR Part 360 2.15 K4. The reduction is subject to the following terms and conditions.

- 1) As requested by Cedarwood, ground water monitoring frequency may be reduced from quarterly to annually. The annual sample should be collected in the Fall during seasonal low ground water conditions and analyzed with part 360 routine perimeters.
- 2) As stated by Cedarwood the town must provide an annual monitoring report prepared by a qualified consultant that evaluates the water quality data and the effect of the landfill cap and site conditions.
- 3) Wells 2 and 3 may be omitted from the monitoring program. Water quality in these wells has proved a point that they no longer provide data that is particular relevant to the performance of the landfill cap. The physical conditions of these wells must be maintained for possible future contingency use. Wells 1, 3 and 4 must be retained in the monitoring program.
- 4) Some of the field data sheets prepared by Phoenix Environmental Laboratories stated that well 3 is below grade and needs an extension. They were not able to locate this well on January 17th. Possibly due to snow cover. The present condition of this well must be documented along with any recommendation for extending or otherwise modifying the PVC riser and protective casing.

- 5) The four wells he observed during the January 17th site visit were unlocked and poorly marked. The well caps on 4 and 5 were broken. These issues must be corrected.
- 6) The samples collected during the post-closure period typically exhibit elevated turbidity created in 50 NTU requiring collection analysis of a duplicate sample for filtered metals analysis. The high turbidities likely result from over aggressive sampling techniques and or use of dedicated futara tubing, which tends to agitate sediment in the well. The wells must be redeveloped so that sampling techniques are approved in order to obtain more representative data. This will also further reduce cost to the town by eliminating the need to analyze filtered metal samples. The 2014 annual monitoring report must document the well repairs and redevelopment.

Supervisor Thomas stated this will save the town approximately \$3000.00 a year. He received a letter from Alice Hollerin from Cedarwood Engineering, which he read. She reviewed the letter from Dale Becker from DEC. The Town of Stony Creek can let Phoenix Environmental know that the sampling can be reduced to once annually in the Fall for routine perimeters. They are currently working on the 2013 Annual Report. She talked to Dale about the turbidity issue and he agreed to work with Phoenix on the sampling techniques this year.

If the town is unable to approve communities this year they will have to look into redevelopment next year. Supervisor Thomas stated as you can see in the bills, Phoenix did testing about two weeks ago and that was \$890.00, so we shouldn't have to do it until Fall. Councilman John Thomas stated its once a year? Supervisor Thomas stated yes, once in the Fall. Councilman John Thomas stated so if they did it once now they won't have to do it until next year. Supervisor Thomas stated the way they talked they want it done in the Fall. He can ask, but we need to fix the well caps and raise one well up. He isn't sure what the redevelopment is.

Board of Assessors vacancy:

Supervisor Thomas stated we have a vacancy in the Board of Assessors. He knows we talked about doing other things and he brings it in front of the board so we can do something.

Councilman Carl Thomas stated to bring you up-to-date. He sent a letter to Mr. Peluso in Albany concerning a re-val in the Assessors office and everything. He hasn't got a response back. Mr. Peluso called him but he is getting it together in a letter so maybe next month we'll have better information and we can decide what we want to do.

Supervisor Thomas stated if we are going to move away from a Board of Assessors we have to do a Local Law. Maybe we should determine that because someone is going to have to draft a Local Law to make it happen. Councilman Carl Thomas asked if this is required because it said in the information, he has some paperwork that says you can do that simply by resolution without a referendum. He isn't sure he doesn't know about the law, he's not up-to-date on that but it doesn't have to go to referendum. Supervisor Thomas stated right, but he thinks we still have to do a local Law. Councilman Carl Thomas stated hopefully Mr. Peluso might have information on that when he responds he's not sure.

Supervisor Thomas stated the law reads, "In any city or town which has retained the office of elective assessor, the legislative body of such city or town may adopt a local law providing that from and after a date set forth in such local law, which date must be within one year after the date on which such local law was adopted. We can make it subject to a mandatory or permissive Referendum or not subject to a referendum".

Supervisor Thomas thinks it's the same for sole elected.

Councilman Carl Thomas stated to wait until next month to see what we get back and have better information maybe. The town board agreed to table this and Councilman Nathan Thomas stated take a month to research it.

Supervisor Thomas stated we have a vacancy; we either fill the vacancy or go with sole appointed or elected.

Francis Dean Heritage Trails; interpretive signs

Supervisor Thomas reported that Debi Kerrigan from Stoney Blue Art Design submitted the data and information to Fossil Manufacturing to manufacture the signs and he expects to hear from Fossil as to assure the exact quote before they do anything. The quote the town agreed to was for \$6281.00. They do have a hefty shipping charge so he is thinking when the time comes he thinks it would behoove maybe himself or take the town pickup and go down and pick them up. It's like \$700.00 for shipping. Councilman John Thomas asked where there are. Supervisor Thomas stated Deer Park, Long Island. He thinks you can drive down and back for less than \$700.00. Supervisor Thomas stated in the process she sent an invoice and her estimated cost when she started was \$2375.00. Her estimated hours were 80 and she is claiming an additional 20 hours and wants another \$600.00. He told her he couldn't give it to her and would bring it to the Town Board and it's up to the Town Board.

Councilwoman Ryan asked what she wants the exact money for. Supervisor Thomas stated she says there were a lot of changes during the process.

Attorney Cooper stated, we asked for changes?

Supervisor Thomas stated we had Sandy Payne and Mary Beth Mitchem doing the text work. Ms. Kerrigan has a please note, "excessive provisions will be charged at the extra usual hourly rate of \$30.00 per hour to be added". He told her he wasn't going to pay her the \$600.00, maybe \$2-300.00. Councilman Nathan Thomas asked if she was giving the board a detailed or abstract of what the changes were for. Supervisor Thomas stated, "No, she hasn't done that".

Councilman Nathan Thomas stated he defiantly wants to see what he's paying for before he approves any funds. Supervisor Thomas stated he will talk to her about if she provides the details maybe the board will consider it. He's not sure how long it takes to make these or produce these signs; it will probably be a couple months. Attorney Cooper asked if she is integral to the remaining to us getting the remaining signs? Supervisor Thomas stated she transferred the data to Fossil and she'll monitor how they are coming out and how they're produced. Attorney Cooper stated if she digs in her heels can she prevent the town from getting them? Supervisor Thomas stated he doesn't think so, no. She has been paid \$2375.00 she has no reason. She got paid what she asked for.

Councilman John Thomas stated this went out to bid we had other companies bidding on this also. Supervisor Thomas stated right; he doesn't think that's a danger.

Policies:

Investment and Procurement:

Supervisor Thomas stated the Board is required by law to review these at the beginning of each year. Attorney Cooper stated we pretty much approved them over and over again, the same format for 10 years or more. Supervisor Thomas stated yes.

We changed them not to many years ago because they changed the amounts and it wasn't to many years ago that we did a Purchase Order. They have been modified but not sure when they did that. It's been four or five years. He's not sure when they changed the amounts. The Purchase Contract for supplies and equipment amount now by the State before going out to bid is \$20,000.00. Public Works Contract has to bid when it exceeds \$35,000.00.

The Town Board made no changes to the Investment or Procurement Policies.

055-14. A resolution was made by Councilman Nathan Thomas seconded by Councilwoman Ryan to adopt the Investment and Procurement Policy as written. Roll call vote, all in favor.

Highway; Snow and Ice Contract:

Supervisor Thomas stated as you recall back in November we passed a resolution without an exact amount. We now have an exact amount. The amount we will receive this year from Warren County to remove the snow and ice from county roads is \$146,216.44, which is an increase of \$11,135.44. Supt. Bradley asked if some of this money increase is for mowing too? Supervisor Thomas stated no. Supt. Bradley stated its separate? Supervisor Thomas stated right. They did put in \$140.00 for one trip and \$280.00 for two times, which is different. This past year we got \$135,081.00. He had the Town Clerk fix the resolution; he signed the contract and took it over to them but haven't seen a check yet. The way they have been doing it the last few years is they pay the town 67% in February and pay the rest in the Fall.

Committee reports:

Landfill; Hours

Councilman Carl Thomas stated he has been having a lot of ongoing discussion about the landfill and see how we might improve that. One of the things that people aren't satisfied with are the hours and aren't convenient. He talked on a couple occasions with the attendant down there. He is quite flexible as far as hours and requirements, whatever's required of it. Councilman Carl Thomas would put out that the Board consider that we go maybe to a four-day a week instead of five-day week. Take the hours from, drop Wednesday, add an hour on to Thursday and add an hour on to Friday and then on the weekends have the two hours, 9-5 so it would be 9-4 on two days and 9-5 on the weekends. He thinks it would be more serviceable for the people in the community. A lot of people have indicated that they would like to see those hours expanded. That way the work hours balance out to be the same and whether we had Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday off or Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday. If we do Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday, whatever you all think. He just thinks it would improve our use of it for the residents. The other issue the attendant has is a lot of times people come in right at closing hour and he stays over to clean up and lock up. He doesn't know, maybe if we look at keeping the closing time the same but give him an additional half hour to clean up and lock up after closing hour. It would add two hours a week on his pay, which doesn't seem like a great amount, a half hour a day, if we went with the four-day week.

Supervisor Thomas stated it seems he could do his clean up while he is working.

Councilman Carl Thomas stated if someone comes in at 5 minutes of 3:00 that's what the issue is.

He understands what he's talking about because he has seen it himself. He doesn't know how much it happens but would imagine quite a bit.

Councilman John Thomas stated when he is around his house on Saturday and Sunday from about 2:30 on he has seen cars going 50-60 MPH to make the last ten minutes.

Councilman Carl Thomas stated he thinks its legitimate maybe not for everyday but how do you choose the days? He thinks that the thing. Supervisor Thomas stated that's up to the board.

Councilman John Thomas stated he thinks the 5:00 is a good idea because anyone working, closing at 3:00 it's sometimes a little tough to get in depending on what their work schedule is.

Councilman Carl Thomas stated Mr. Fisher did bring up the wintertime, 5:00 it might be a little bit dark so if its maybe cut back to 4:00 see how it goes.

Supervisor Thomas stated we did this before too. First thing you know your changing the hours every 15 minutes and then people don't know when its opened and that's why we went to 9-3, that way everybody knows. He's not necessarily opposed to changing the hours but thinks we need to set the hours and leave them alone. You can't be coming every couple months and tinkering with it. Councilman Carl Thomas stated he wouldn't even suggest that but if the winter hours, if you wanted to cut back to 7-4 or maybe put a light down there if that would required that, he doesn't know what's easy for us. But the 9-5, a lot of people would appreciate that and right now there's plenty light at 5:00. Supervisor Thomas asked if the Board wants to give it some thought for the March meeting or do it right now.

Councilman Nathan Thomas asked what days he was talking. Councilman Carl Thomas stated to make his preference would be Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday that would be his preference. Like he said he's not hung up on any of it but he thinks a four-day and the five-day during the week doesn't seem to be a benefit a lot to us. Councilman Nathan Thomas stated Mondays would be handy especially for people up at their place on the weekends. Supervisor Thomas stated that Monday is a holiday a lot of times too. He isn't going to pay him holiday and straight, He's not going to pay him double time. There are a lot of holidays on Mondays. If he wants to work the holiday straight time that's fine with him.

Councilman Carl Thomas stated is that something that's negotiable, is that just an understood thing because a lot of holidays are not paid unless there specified by contract, he doesn't know. Supervisor Thomas stated most of them are paid. The way they do it now because he has the day off anyways, he has a floater so he has a day, six-hours he can take. Councilman Carl Thomas asked if he comes under the highway. Supt. Bradley stated somewhat yes, if he needs something basically. Supervisor Thomas stated repairs and stuff. Councilman Carl Thomas stated you do the cleaning, snowplowing and keeping it opened. Supervisor Thomas stated they could do that if someone works Monday. You can do whatever you want to but if you want to wait a month to think about it that's fine. Supt. Bradley stated being a holiday; they could make a stink down there. The Union. You want to be careful because he is in the Union and could be collecting double time. Supervisor Thomas stated right. Supt. Bradley stated unless they opt out of it, you'd have to actually change the contract. He doesn't think he can just say it. If they want to cause a stink, they could whether they would or not he doesn't know.

Councilman Carl Thomas asked if it falls under the highway contract. Supt. Bradley stated yes, highway yes. Supervisor Thomas stated its part of the contract; it's a separate unit.

Councilman Carl Thomas asked how many holidays do we have on Friday, Probably not to many. Councilman Nathan Thomas agreed.

Attorney Cooper stated Warrensburg closes their landfill on holidays. So that's another option for you to shut it down on those Mondays. Supervisor Thomas stated yes, that's true.

Councilman John Thomas stated he's going to be paid anyways by the contract, if it's a holiday that's in the contract with pay. Supervisor Thomas agreed. Councilman John Thomas stated he wouldn't be missing out on anything. Councilman Nathan Thomas stated but if you were working you'd be getting double time.

Councilman Nathan Thomas stated he moves that it be added it to the March business, sit down with numbers see how to make it work.

Councilman Carl Thomas stated it's going to take a little time. Do it in March then you wouldn't really be changing it until April because you have to make signs and have the notices made.

Supervisor Thomas stated they usually send out the dump day cards around the first of April. So if the Board decides we can highlight that on the card.

Councilman John Thomas stated get it done before then and put the hour change on that.

Supervisor Thomas stated and probably posters and ads. The free dump day cards are usually sent out the first part of April so as long as we're talking about it is it something the Board wants to do this year because it does cost money. Councilwoman Ryan and Councilman John Thomas stated yes.

056-14. A resolution was made by Councilwoman Ryan seconded by Councilman John Thomas to mail and continue with the dump cards for free dump day for the year 2014.

Discussion: Councilman Nathan Thomas stated we send out to all residents and obviously you have to update the sold houses, Supervisor Thomas stated the best we can. Councilman Nathan Thomas stated he knows Tom at the landfill keeps a list of who brings them in, is that one more responsibility we can put on to him vs. mailing cost of sending 400 cards or is it not effective that way. Councilwoman Ryan stated it should be open to everybody everyone should get one regardless. Supervisor Thomas stated not everyone goes down there all the time. Councilman Carl Thomas stated a lot of people don't use them he never uses his. Supervisor Thomas stated a lot of people don't use them, but he always felt that people that own property here but don't live here that only comes on weekends or something it gives them an opportunity to get rid of there things. The same opportunity everyone else has. Councilman Carl Thomas stated they're not using it so there not paying to the year so that would be a loss. He doesn't know how you would work around it. Supervisor Thomas stated we pay taxes. Councilman Carl Thomas stated that's true too. Supervisor Thomas stated their paying for it, it does cost money whatever comes in on that C&D card is an expense. Roll call vote, all in favor.

Town Justice; Grant:

Supervisor Thomas stated the Town Justice applied for some grant money from the Uniform Court System back in the Fall. They sent a letter and he has been awarded what he asked for, which was \$2200.00. Part of this will be used for a light to better light up the far end on the town hall and the majority of it, \$2000.00, was to go toward a new copier.

We have been having issues with the one we have and he thought he would help us out.

If that is agreeable with the Board he would like to look into it. He has been talking with the guy that sold them the copier we have and he has been waiting for this grant and he will get more defiant prices.

Councilman John Thomas asked if we buy the copier outright or do we have a company supply and maintain. How have you been doing it? Supervisor Thomas stated the copier we have now we brought it outright. We pay \$.02¢ a copy and that covers any repairs. They also provide toner. They have been here, he doesn't know how many times within the last couple months. He assumes it will be the same way but isn't 100% sure. Councilman John Thomas stated it is cheaper to do it that way.

New Business

Double H Ranch:

Supervisor Thomas stated the Double H Ranch would like to hold a Camp Challenge Ride on September 6th, 2014 from 8:30 PM –3:00 PM. It's a 62.5-mile loop. This will be their 5th year.

057-14. A resolution was made by Supervisor Thomas seconded by Councilman Nathan Thomas authorizing the Supervisor to sign the letter from Double H Ranch so they can get their State Highway Use Permit from the NYS Department of Transportation for their 5th year of the Camp Challenge Ride to be held on September 6th, 2014. Roll call vote, all in favor.

Landfill: Brush Burning:

Supervisor Thomas received an e-mail, which Supervisor Thomas read. On January 17th, 2014 Dale Becker and Patrick Crane visited the Town of Stony Creek closed landfill and transfer station to conduct a landfill cap inspection. There were no issues found during the inspection, the cap is being regularly mowed and all gas fence is intact and the town is up-to-date with their post-closure monitoring sample. While they were there they observed the following:

1). The town has been burning brush and yard waste at the transfer station without having a valid restricted burning permit. A town employee informed them that the last brush burning was done in the Fall and the plan was to start burning again in the coming Spring. Open burning without a permit is a violation of 6NYCRR Part 360-1.14 Q and needs to cease. One alternative to burning is for the town to dispose of land clearing debris at a registered land clearing debris landfill or obtain a registration to operate your own landfill disposable site. The land clearing debris registration form can be found at an address he tried and it says the page doesn't exist; A second alternative to burning is for the town to chip their LCD. The town can apply for a recycling equipment grant and if accepted be reimbursed up to 50% of the cost of recycling the equipment. In the past towns purchase wood chippers and it tells where you can apply for a grant. It was signed Patrick Crane Environmental Engineer 1.

Supervisor Thomas stated he knows when they banned it the first time, The Board at that time decided to stop accepting brush. What we do now is what we do now. Councilman John Thomas stated we opened it up because we were under the assumption that they lifted the ban. Supervisor Thomas stated they lifted the ban. Councilman Nathan Thomas asked if we could file for a burning permit. Supervisor Thomas stated he didn't think it would do any good. They don't want municipalities burning brush.

Councilman Nathan Thomas stated are they saying it's illegal for municipalities to burn brush then? Supervisor Thomas stated yes that's what there saying. They think it's an air quality issue, it was a big issue, then we had the storms and the Governor let it continue and last June they put the ban back on.

Supervisor Thomas stated he should tell Mr. Crane they should probably let someone know, he sent an email saying we have to cease but didn't send no e-mail about the ban, if they were a little more forthcoming with their information.

Councilwoman Ryan asked how much brush we get at the transfer station. Councilman John Thomas stated there's a lot of brush going in during the summer and from the fire co's standpoint they would rather see it all down there and out of peoples yards and back yards because that's where it'll end up. Because there going to get rid of it one way or another. If the town doesn't take it they are going to burn it someplace. Councilman Nathan stated to purchase a tub grinder or chipper to process it. Councilman John Thomas stated you get a chipper you have to pay someone to run it. Supervisor Thomas stated they do mention a land clearing debris landfill. Councilman Nathan Thomas stated that would be Harlem Hollow they accept. Supervisor Thomas stated no what they are talking about is stumps, brush, dirt and rocks. It can't have painted wood. Supt. Bradley stated that's free to. It's a simple permit they told him. Councilman John Thomas stated if we do it we have to have a spot to do it. We took them before the dump closed, he thinks Tom Brooks was working down there. From where the building is now to the back of the property, that was a big hole and that was filled in. One summer that whole area was filled in with stumps. He was wondering if you have to limit it to what you can take as far as how fast it will fill up and how big a hole you have to fill up? Supt Bradley stated your going to have to find a way to compact to. Supervisor Thomas stated they have to find a spot to do it too. Councilman Nathan Thomas stated until we find a solution we will have to stop accepting brush. Supervisor Thomas agreed and stated people can get burn permits from the Town Clerk with no problem just the towns can't burn brush. Supervisor Thomas stated he will look into this and give Tom Suozzo a call and see if he knows about these landfills, He is sure there is more to it. Councilman Carl Thomas asked if they are from Ray Brook or Warrensburg. Supervisor Thomas stated he is going to say Ray Brook; Dave MtPleasant is in Warrensburg, Dale Becker he isn't sure.

Councilman Carl Thomas stated he has a couple things he would like to bring to the Board. One of the things is what the County is doing and maybe the Supervisor can inform or update us on it and that is the ALS system that there talking about with the County having like a central place for ALS people like a fly car going to the scenes. The article he read said that it would be for the County but people who had there own like Luzerne and Lake George could be exempt from it. It sounds like a great idea to him but then he is wondering about the funding of it and if they do proceed and get it established is it something the town will have to buy into or are they going to have a chance to use it. How would they fund it or how would they split the cost. Supervisor Thomas stated it hasn't been determined he doesn't think.

Councilman Nathan Thomas stated he was in a county EMS meeting they have every other third Tuesday or Wednesday of the month. Basically what you have unfortunately, you have Luzerne, Lake George, Bolton, and all these towns with great tax bases have gone to 24 hours 7 days paid EMS and those agencies are saying wait a minute, himself as a captain, he's not giving up himself. So the problem is that you have three agencies, Stony Creek, Hague and North Warren having problems and everybody else didn't wait to step up to the plate because they figured there staffed like Luzerne, they have one ambulance 24/7 and they are happy with that.

So as far as getting a county-wide system established the thought there was a neat blimp in the newspaper the next morning. He was at that meeting and that wasn't even discussed. EMS is very egotistical. There is a lot of, I'm the paramedic or I'm the captain of my agency, my agency is going to take care of my agency and if the county board is looking at it. He knows Supervisor Thomas sits on a couple seats with it and the idea behind it is the bottom line, you are trying to help people. You listen to the scanner and Luzerne has a structure fire and they will call West Glens Falls, Bay-Ridge, Moreau or Corinth and it's on the Hadley Road you never hear them pick Stony Creek. So it's not that we don't have the manpower, we're not utilized. The idea behind it is great but you have Warrensburg EMS that's established, they're paying their staff. The only way the county is going to make a county-wide system is to enact it. Where's the funding coming from, how's it going to happen nobody knows.

Councilman Carl Thomas stated the way it reads in the paper was the county was looking into it and all he was wondering is how it would be funded like he said it's a great idea. That way we can maintain our squad and they would send an ALS personal out if they are needed, if they're not they would turn around and go back. It would be very costly he would think to small towns. Councilman Nathan Thomas stated it's very costly. It's like certain agencies are running over the years, Thurman being one of them. You have an ALS fly car that's great, he can respond with his truck with an oxygen bag and triage but 15 minutes on the scene he is out of oxygen and if the local ambulance isn't getting off the floor then it's a very broken system.

Councilman Carl Thomas stated that's what he's thinking meeting the local ambulance at the scene. He was wondering too how they could like exempt Luzerne or somebody because if they're on a run or if they don't have their equipment, their equipment is down, they will have to use something like that. That's his thinking

Councilman Nathan Thomas gave an example of Rensselaer County, they run BLS ambulances and they have seven fly cars that are ALS and everyone in the county has to come together to make it work you have to get beyond a point, oh no we have ALS we're good you have to dumb it down and bring everybody on the same page. It's just getting all the agencies to work together. From the meeting with the county one of the things they have been discussing was expense. Glens Falls Hospital no longer provided their equipment, if they use an oxygen mask or oxygen that comes out the fire co's budget. All the re-supply items they use to get from the hospital are no longer resupplies. The hospital use to bill the patients but with 90% of the agencies billing the patients for the transport they are saying you guys go after the equipment use. One of the things they discussed was maybe utilizing Glens Falls Fire Station One for centralized oxygen system. So the whole county can buy oxygen together and that would be a great savings. Medications, Stony Creek who does 26 calls a year and you have West Glens Falls that does 26 calls a month their use of medication is more, it's all about bottom line cost. The problem is for a while we got away with medicine getting ready to expire and giving it to other emergency squads. The pharmaceutical companies said your dealing drugs, you're not a pharmacist you can't hand this out and can't start this exchange system and they really snowballed them on supplies. If you need drugs they carry you can only get a case at a time, which is 10 packs at a time. You need one; you buy 10 you can't give the other 9 to another agency that can use it because you're not a pharmacist. There's going to be a lot to it if they ever get it off the floor. They are going to need a doctor to back it. A pharmacist who is going to support it and its all stuff Glens Falls Hospital did with them for years. It affected their bottom line so they are no longer supporting them.

Councilman Carl Thomas stated he didn't know, it looked like something the county was doing and thought the Supervisor had some insight into. It looked like it was on the ground floor. Supervisor Thomas stated some supervisors have talked about having a meeting among the Supervisors. He thinks there could be some issues between EMS Directors and Supervisors. He thinks there is a little attitude there, that's his own personal opinion. As far as ALS he has always seen it as a problem because Luzerne and Hadley are paying for there's. Councilman John Thomas stated and a lot too. His tax bill for Saratoga County, they pay Luzerne over \$651,000.00 just for the ambulance.

Supervisor Thomas stated so these guys working down there, they certainly aren't going to want to give up their job and that's what it's about. Councilman Nathan Thomas stated that's 2/3's like the REMAC (Regional EMS Board) for years was always Empires employees and Empire has the upper hand well it's changed, it's Glens Falls Firemen, it's guys that work in Luzerne and you look down the board list. Councilman John Thomas and Councilman Nathan Thomas stated it's pretty much your paid staff. Councilman John Thomas stated it's protecting their job, that's where it's at right now. That's why you're getting the attitude. He knows they have had some calls where Corinth's fly car has met them on a couple calls and it works out perfect. Supervisor Thomas stated the smaller towns understand that and he would throw Warrensburg in there too. From what he understands they are doing ok. Councilman Nathan Thomas stated they have been running in the red so long they are use to it.

Supervisor Thomas stated they understand this. It's the case the rich get richer and the rest of us. Councilwoman Ryan stated we pay for it. Councilman Nathan Thomas stated hope for the best. Supervisor Thomas stated we haven't had a meeting yet and he thinks they will sometime pretty soon and see what comes out of that. He thinks the fly car system at least for the smaller towns, if we have to fund it, we'll fund it or get the county to fund it and get the richer towns to pay for it. Councilman John Thomas stated in his mind that's more sensible spread it over the county so they collect from the towns. He can't believe that Hadley Taxpayers are happy with paying \$651,000.00 just for one rig 24/7. If you had fly cars he is sure the cost would go down. Supervisor Thomas stated so they might be interested in the cost that will go down and they can get past the attitudes.

Councilman Nathan Thomas stated that's the biggest thing sitting in these meetings, coming from Stony Creek sitting there listening to the attitudes. The meeting start at 6:00 but at 5:00 they have another meeting that the up north aren't notified of, it's the southern guys, West Glens Falls, City of Glens Falls, all the paid agencies that have the call volume and support of a paid ambulance. The problem with that is it's a double taxation. First they're taxing you for the ambulance then they are billing you when they show up at your house. That is something that's been looked into but it's a fee for service world and they are providing you with a service so they get to trade you a fee.

Supervisor Thomas stated he doesn't think it's a dead issue. Bolton Supervisor stated he is willing to help us out as long as we don't take his sales tax.

Councilman Carl Thomas stated the other one has to with Gov. Cuomo's budget. Like this year the tax cap of 2%, then he doesn't know, next year it sounds like they're pushing this consolidation services.

Supervisor Thomas stated Cuomo is. Councilman Carl Thomas stated he is yes, but he thinks it is tied into your State Aid he's not sure.

Supervisor Thomas stated so we don't get \$3600.00, that's about all the State Aid we get unless they're going to cut the CHIPS and stuff.

Councilman Carl Thomas stated he doesn't know but he is just saying something because he doesn't see where small towns like Stony Creek can consolidate with any of the neighbors. He doesn't see where they could. Supervisor Thomas stated there could be a couple possibilities. Councilman Carl Thomas stated it would seem it should be a connection because it would be. Supervisor Thomas stated that's what he's pushing is, the way he understands it, is if it gets into the budget and it passes by the Legislature, that next year each municipalities will be limited to the 2% or whatever the rate of inflation is, which he heard that in a conference a week ago it was going to be 1%. Last year it was 1.66%, the rate of inflation but next year you will be able to increase your tax levy to that point then the State will send checks out to your taxpayers to make up the increase in the levy but then the following year in order to do that your going to have to show examples of consolidation, the way he understand it, then they will pay your taxpayers again which its only going to amount to \$3-4.00. They're going to send out \$3-4.00 checks or whatever it is, it's not going to be a lot because if you go over the 2% they won't do that. The third year he doesn't know what happens, probably get whacked with 4-5% tax increase. Councilman Carl Thomas stated he doesn't understand it all, it seems worrisome because if the State is going to be taking money's away from you because you can't meet a certain criteria. Supervisor Thomas stated he doesn't think he is saying that he's just saying the State won't pay the increase in the levy to your taxpayers. He hasn't heard he's going to take money away. It's nothing but election year politics so he can turn around and say that he's freezing taxes. It's sort of like the Star Program but instead of increasing the aid to the schools we do the paperwork shuffle so everybody knows where this money coming from. Now he wants to expand it into the property taxes. It hasn't gotten to the Legislature so hopefully they will put an end to it. He doesn't see how it's going to work.

Councilman Carl Thomas stated he heard Betty Little and Dan Stec were having or holding some meetings on it. He tried to call her office but he couldn't get though. He wanted to find out what that was about.

Supervisor Thomas stated she is a big advocate for consolidation so she probably likes that idea. Like he said he doesn't know what's going to happen the third year because if you raise it 2% and the State pays the taxpayers and then raise it another 2% and the State pays, what happens the third year. Now you're up 4% plus you say you have to raise it another 2% so now the third year the taxpayers are going to get hit with a 6% tax increase. The whole issue in his mind is they should fix their own problems before they tinker with ours. If they paid their own bills and took care of there own mandates. If they just paid the 25% that the property taxpayers pay on Medicaid alone it would lower the taxes in Warren County by 13 million dollars and probably 90% of the States in the country are 50% State and 50% Federal. New York is 50% Federal 25% State and 25% Property Taxpayers. That's one problem the property taxpayers pay for that we have no control over. It's a lot of money put on the property taxpayer that's caused directly by New York State.

From the floor:

Assessment:

Peter LaGrasse, Assessor stated he has something to say that he doesn't like saying it but he has discovered a clerical error that involves applications for refunds.

He processed this on January 13, 2014 and hoped that he could catch certain individuals that hadn't paid their taxes so they could be issued a corrected tax bill. It would have been clean and simple but it just doesn't work that way. He had to go through the County and other problems. So right now he has ten, he thinks they all paid their taxes, so there's ten refunds he is talking about that vary from \$68.47 down to \$5.89 and these are from one clerical error in the programming of the computer that had to do with Combat Veteran Ceiling and being at \$45,000.00 and or \$60,000.00 is at 25%. There was a ceiling of \$45,000.00 on the computer from before that wasn't changed to \$60,000.00. That ceiling means a \$240,000.00 house actually 5% has \$60,000.00 off and at present they had \$45,000.00 off instead of \$60,000.00. The form he is using has a space for him to apply, which he did on the 13th of January 2014, for the County Director to verify and she did and got back with this stuff on January 14, 2014. Now because of a little complication that three that had not paid and thought he could get a corrected bill, he has seven for refunds and the other three he is going to re-apply those three for refunds assuming they paid. What he needs for the third party of the form is the tax levying body or official designating by resolution to sign the form, which most probably will be Supervisor Thomas. He is asking for that resolution. He can give the correct amounts of refund that were supposed to have been calculated through a program by Anita, Tax Collector. He has been doing extra work covering for Anita on these calculation but they need to be verified possibility but double-checked. He is sure of them except one, which is \$1.00 off. He would like a resolution authorizing Supervisor Thomas to do this and Peter working with him tomorrow on getting this straightened up. Attorney Cooper asked what the total of the potential refunds were. Mr. LaGrasse stated the total of everything would be \$483.83, if his calculations are correct. Supervisor Thomas asked if this is for just this year. Mr. LaGrasse stated that is for this year. They are entitled to two prior years. That has been done the same time he did this but that's done through the County. Supervisor Thomas stated he has a sheet that went through the Real Property Tax Committee and there is ten individuals on there that they have done, 2012 and 2013 and they will be approved Friday for refunds and that totals \$1004.98. Mr. LaGrasse stated that would be in line with his \$483.83.

058-14. A resolution was made by Councilwoman Ryan seconded by Councilman Nathan Thomas authorizing Supervisor Thomas to approve refunds up to \$500.00 for the Town of Stony Creek and Warren County Real Property 2014 Tax year for the following parcels: 232.-1-29, 233.-1-23, 245.1-32, 246.-1-21.1, 246.-1-35, 247.-1-19.2, 247.-1-32, 258.-1-24, 260.-1-20 and 260.-1-76. Due to a clerical error, which did not have the correct amount applied for the Veterans' Exemption. Roll call vote, all in favor.

A motion was made by Councilman Nathan Thomas seconded by Councilwoman Ryan to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:35 PM. all in favor, motion carried.

SETTLEMENT DAY

Supervisor Thomas opened the Settlement Day meeting at 8:35 PM.

The Town Board did an audit of the Town Official's books and found all records to be in order except for the Tax Collector's books, which weren't available to be reviewed.

059-14. A resolution was made by Councilwoman Ryan seconded by Supervisor Thomas On February 18th, 2014 in compliance with Section 2019A of the Uniform Justice Court Act the Stony Creek Town Board conducted the required examination and audit of the Town Courts records and found them to be in order and complete. Roll call vote, all in favor.

A motion was made by Councilman John Thomas seconded by Councilwoman Ryan to adjourn the Settlement Day meeting at 8:50 PM. All in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Harrington
Town Clerk