

Minutes of the Sandy Creek Regional Planning Board
Wednesday, October 4, 2023
Sandy Creek Town Hall

Members present: Larry Rice, Frank Dixon, Bill Joyce, Richard Machemer, Pat Machemer, Sybil Cummins and Shirley Rice.

Larry Rice opened the regular meeting at 7:00 pm.

Discussion on the minutes of September 6, 2023 found no changes were needed. A motion to accept the minutes as presented was made by Richard Machemer and seconded by Pat Machemer. All voted in the affirmative and the motion carried.

Bill provided the Treasurer's report. Expenditures for the period ending October 4, 2023 are for salaries for Board members of \$92.35 per person and \$438.66 for Bill Joyce as Secretary/Treasurer. Also, there was a payment of \$164.48 for EFTPS. A balance of \$7,750.86 remains in the account.

Correspondence included: Minutes of the meeting of the Town Board for September, 2023; A report from CEO John Howland of building permits issued for the dates 8-1-23 to 9-30-23; A registration form titled - *Training and Certification for Town Officials* with Planning and Zoning schools in Batavia, Oneonta and Corning NY; The fall issue of Rural Futures from the NYS Legislative Commission on Rural Resources.

Bill stated that he had given the proposed budget for 2024 to the Town Board at their meeting in September.

Bill brought the Planning Board computer in to show the damage done when one hinge broke while lifting the lid resulting in a broken screen in the lower right hand corner. He was in the process of getting a replacement and was considering an Acer Vero which is made with some recycled plastics.

A property located at 4124 Co. Rt. 22 requested a subdivision into two lots. Both lots would become non-conforming to regulations. A motion to deny the subdivision was made by Larry Rice and seconded by Shirley Rice. All voted in the affirmative and the motion passed. The subdivision will be referred to the Board of Appeals for consideration of a variance.

Bill stated that at the Town Board meeting in September, John Wood had asked if the Planning Board would consider amending the Town Solar Law to include language requiring any new proposed solar farm provide training to the local fire departments concerning what may be required in order to fight a fire in the building containing batteries. A recent fire at a solar farm in Watertown, NY demonstrated the need for this type of training. Bill will see what can be done to make this amendment to both the Town and Village Solar Laws.

The Board moved on to the Comprehensive Plan update. Starting at page 24, the Board read through the remainder of the Plan which directly involves the Village and Town of Sandy Creek as well as the Village of Lacona. The session of review was, as the month prior, to look at what may be obviously in need of updating, whether as simple as change of dates or more complicated such as recognizing data collection methods and the need to understand how the data was collected. The Board made notes concerning necessary changes. A discussion concerning the various goals and recommendations of the Plan remain consistent with the desires of the community. It would be in the interest of the residents of these communities to have their concerns, wants and wishes considered throughout this process. Bill will discuss this further with the Town and Village Boards at their upcoming meetings. A survey sent out to 3100 residents may need to be replicated to try to get an understanding of how people feel about their community 10 years on from the completion of the original Comprehensive Plan.

With no further business before the Board, a motion was made by Larry Rice to adjourn and seconded by Frank Dixon. The motion was passed by unanimous vote and the Board adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Recording Secretary - Sybil Cummins