

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
@ The Russell Town Hall @ 6:00pm  
3/18/2025**

**PRESENT:**

Supervisor Matthews  
Councilor Burnham  
Councilor Kerr  
Highway Superintendent Meilleur  
Town Clerk Darcie Cross  
Councilor Rowe  
Councilor Beachard

**GUESTS:**

Trudy Hendrickson  
Larry Denesha  
Robert Knox  
Morris Jeffries  
Scott Cardinell  
Mike Morgan

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Supervisor Matthews.

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION:** None

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES:**

A motion was made by Councilor Beachard Seconded by Councilor Rowe to accept the minutes from 2/18/25 as presented by the Town Clerk.

Ayes - 5            Matthews, Burnham, Kerr, Rowe, Beachard  
Nays - 0  
Motion carried.

**TOWN CLERK REPORT:** 3-18-2025

February 2025 Report:

7 dog licenses	40.00
Hunting license commission	5.56
1 Marriage License Comm	7.50
0 One Day Marriage Officiant	.00
1 Certified copies	10.00
4 Building Permits	100.00
0 Impoundment fees	.00
0 donation for community room	.00
Fax and copy money	.00
<b>Total Revenue to Supervisor</b>	<b>\$163.06</b>

**Disbursed amounts:**

Ag & Market (spay, neuter program)	11.00
NYS Department of Health	22.50
DECALS (Sweep)	399.44
	<b>432.94</b>

**Total Disbursed**

**\$596.00**

I have collected 80.57% of taxes as of 3/11/25.

A motion was made by Councilor Burnham and seconded by Councilor Kerr to accept the Clerk Report as presented.

Ayes - 5            Matthews, Burnham, Kerr, Rowe, Beachard

Nays - 0

Motion carried.

**BALL FIELD COMMITTEE:** None

- Councilor Beachard is getting a committee together again. He had spoke with Richard about septic, leach field and bathroom.

Highway Superintendent Richard Meilleur & Councilor Burnham left due to a fire on Mill Street.

**SUPERVISORS REPORT:**

**Supervisor's Report  
March 18, 2025**

1- Financial Report

-Details of all income and expense transactions have been filed with the town clerk.

-Account balances as of March 18, 2025, for the general fund, highway fund, capital improvement fund, and streetlight fund have been filed with the town clerk.

I received updated ambulance contract from attorney, all looks good, passed onto Canton rescue.

I met with Pete and we went through the flags, and we have 20 good flags to put up. I took old flags to Sara Farr she is looking to refurbish them.

Dereck C Matthews  
Town Supervisor

A motion was made by Councilor Kerr and seconded by Councilor Beachard accepting the supervisor's report.

Ayes - 4            Matthews, Beachard, Kerr, Rowe

Nays - 0  
Absent – Burnham (left for fire call)  
Motion carried.

**LEGISLATURE REPORT:** Larry Denesha

- Discussed passing a Resolution modifying the budget for the Sheriffs Office for inmate medication fees & hospitalizations. In 2023 cost for 196 inmates was \$48,800.00 and in 2024 cost for 290 inmates it rose to \$117,200.00.
- Passed a Resolution authorizing the Chair to sign with Franklin County for purchase of road salt.
- Passed a Resolution in support of the New York State Corrections Officers. They have offered the support of the County Attorney Steven Button.
- Discussed presenting a Resolution urging Governor Hochul & NY State Legislators to avoid increasing costs on local governments. The Senate has just passed the biggest budget in state history at \$450 billion.
- Discussed solar project.

A motion was made by Councilor Kerr and seconded by Councilor Beachard to accept the Legislature Report as presented.

Ayes - 4            Matthews, Beachard, Kerr, Rowe  
Nays - 0  
Absent – Burnham (left for fire call)  
Motion carried.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**Russell:** None

Fire Chief Cardinell and Robert Knox had to leave for a fire call.

**DeGrasse:** None

**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:** None

Highway Superintendent Meilleur had to leave for a fire call.

**HIGHWAY COMMITTEE REPORT:** Doug Beachard

- Councilor Beachard and the committee had discussed CHIPS funds and utilizing them.
- Discussed the ballfield work that needs to be done.

A motion was made by Councilor Kerr and seconded by Councilor Rowe to accept the Highway Committee Report as presented.

Ayes - 4            Matthews, Beachard, Kerr, Rowe

Nays - 0

Absent – Burnham (left for fire call)

Motion carried.

**AUDIT REPORT:**

Town of Russell  
P.O. Box 628 \* Russell N.Y. 13684  
Phone# (315) 347-2358 \* Fax # (315) 347-4244



Audit Committee Report  
March 18, 2025  
Audit

Dereck C Matthews  
Sandra Burnham

	Vouchers	Total
General	59-79	\$10,055.76
Highway	44-59	\$46,020.27
Street Lights	03	\$1,237.63
Russell Fire Operations		\$53,040.00
Russell Fire Equipment		\$17,315.00
DeGrasse Fire Operations		\$23,460.00

**RESOLUTION: # 31**  
**Burnham**

**Audit Report- Dereck Matthews & Sandra**

A motion was made by Councilor Beachard and seconded by Councilor Rowe to authorize paying the bills.

Ayes - 4            Matthews, Beachard, Kerr, Rowe  
Nays - 0  
Absent – Burnham (left for fire call)

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Mike Morgan from Canton Rescue Squad came to continue discussion on agreement to the Board for ambulance services.

**RESOLUTION: # 32                      Agreement with Canton Rescue Squad to provide services for the Town of Russell and all hamlets within the Township within, effective for the period of 1/1/2025 to 12/31/25 at \$1,000.00 per month.**

A motion was made by Councilor Beachard and Seconded by Councilor Rowe for Supervisor Matthews to sign the agreement with Canton Rescue Squad.

Therefore, the Town Board authorizes the agreement with Canton Rescue Squad for services to the town of Russell and all hamlets within the Township effective for the period of 1/1/2025 to 12/31/25 at \$1,000.00 a month, a 1-year period unless renewed in writing. We will pay \$9,000.00 this year for the remaining 9 months out of account A600.

Ayes - 4            Matthews, Beachard, Kerr, Rowe  
Nays - 0  
Absent – Burnham (left for fire call)

- Councilor Kerr asked Supervisor Matthews about our dock that had washed away in the July storm last year. Supervisor Matthews said it had been found on the downside of the dam after the storm but when he went to reclaim it had gone missing again. He will see if insurance will cover it. Maybe replace with aluminum or just fix the bank for easy entry/exit.

**NEW BUSINESS: None**

A motion was made by Councilor Beachard and seconded by Councilor Kerr to adjourn the meeting @ 6:34 pm

All were in favor.  
Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by

Darcie Cross - Russell Town Clerk