

The regular meeting of the Village Board was held on June 13, 2023 – Zoom meeting

Present: Deputy Mayor Timothy Knight

Trustees: Amanda Fernandez, Robert Tinker, Sheryl Adams

Also present: Clerk Laraway, DPW Keyser, Attorney Fred Mauhs, Marjorie Troidl, Times Journal Nicosia, Joan Wissert, Peggy & Fred Risse, Kevin Dailey, The Mountain Eagle Avitabile Zoom: D. Jeremenko, JMI Consultant Scott McMullen

Deputy Mayor Knight called meeting to order at 7:00 PM with Pledge of Allegiance.

Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams, to approve Board minutes for May 1, 2023 and May 30, 2023. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

JMI Consultant Scott McMullen discussed with Board renewing energy contract on fixed delivery charges for National Grid. National Grid delivery charge is .065 per kwh estimated to go up by 15-20%. Village can lock in at .0983 for one year contract with Energo. Old contract will expire in November 2023. Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams to sign twelve-month contract with Energo. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Rotary President-Elect Joan Wissert discussed with joining with the Village on High Impact Energy program to provide training for community on programs provided by NYSERTA. First meeting will be June 21, 2023 at the Reform Church from 4-6pm. Subjects will be on energy upgrades, clean heating and cooling etc. Village can earn points for each implement program and work on getting grants. Rotary is promoting this to help people cut energy expenses.

Fire Department Monthly Report: Kevin Dailey gave report; Things are going smoothly; Working on getting new members; Thanked Village Crew for great job at repair water main on Danforth Ave.

DPW Superintendent Keyser monthly report:

**Streets:** Sweeping the streets; Working with Town shared service to use Hot Box for potholes; Working on getting quotes to make repairs on Railroad Ave. drainage; Getting quotes for Nickerson Ave and Lawyers. Marjorie Troidl was present to question why nothing has been done on Railroad Ave. about drainage and why sidewalks have not been done along Clauverwie to Indian Acres. She presented the Board with a letter requesting a response in writing to these issues. It was discussed that the County would be doing the sidewalks when they redo Clauverwie Road. Deputy Mayor Knight stated he would contact Schoharie County DPW Commissioner. Dan Crandel and discuss what needs to be done to get sidewalk. DPW Keyser stated he would get quote for repair to Railroad Ave. drainage issue. Fred Risse requested they keep in mind that large farm equipment will be using Clauverwie Road.

**Water:** Had a few water main fixes; Quarter of the way in replacing water readers; Will be fixing roads where lines have been dug up for repairs; Getting quote from Nadaeu to repair Sheldon Ave. line.

**Sewer:** New plant project very close to being done; A-Team installing new pump and building needs to be painted; Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams to approve SUNY Morrisville WWTP Course, and food reimbursement for Cole Keyser. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Deputy Code Officer Fink Monthly Report: Completed CO for MT Path; Issued couple of fence permits; Had walk through Middleburgh Coffee Company with the Fire Department; Still doing class course for Codes Officer.

Trustee Fernandez discussed doing a pumpkin patch at 143 Baker Ave. for the Oktoberfest and Columbus

Day Parade. Handing out and using pumpkins for activity would be a great activity for our kids. The only cost to the Village would be getting plantings started, and Village would have one less lot to mow. Trustee Fernandez made a motion seconded by Deputy Mayor Knight to approve project. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Trustee Fernandez gave update on NYCLASS investment: Process enrolling funds are collateralized not insured. Working with Village Attorney and NYCLASS Attorneys to see if this meets Village guidelines on investments.

Trustee Tinker gave Cemetery update: Cemetery has five big trees that need to be cut down, John's Tree Service declined as trees are too large. He suggested contacting Pride Mark Tree Service for quote. Johns stated he would take down the locust trees for free if Village crew would clean them up.

Deputy Mayor Knight asked the Board their feelings on reopening the Village Hall. Trustee Tinker, Trustee Fernandez, and Deputy Mayor Knight all stated yes as long as employees feel safe and there are no more incidences. Trustee Adams stated no she still felt it should stay locked until door locks could be installed. Deputy Mayor Knight made a motion, seconded by Trustee Tinker to reopen Village Hall June 14, 2023. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Deputy Mayor Knight opened Public Hearing on Fred Risse Proposed PDD at 7:30pm. Mr. Risse stated the PDD will be behind Andy's Auto. He and his wife are getting older and looking to fund their later years with this project. Property will be divided into eleven building lots (map was available to review). Mr. Risse asked that the Village be the lead agency for the SEQR. Discussion ensued: water mains, roads, hydrants, street lights, road frontage, drainage, and property deed restrictions. Public Comment: Joan Wissert asked if road will have to be paved, Cody Anderson read letter with concerns about Village being lead agency for the SEQR, does the Board has authority to make these decisions and move project to County Planning. Mr. Risse addressed why County Planning can't be lead agency. Village Attorney Mauhs will be keeping the Board abreast with any legal concerns. Mr. Risse stated very disappointed with Mr. Anderson's comments. ZBA President John Wingfield outlined the next steps to move project forward. Mr. Risse commented on how Middleburgh shine with all it events. Deputy Mayor stated credit needs to go to MABA and Rotary also. Deputy Mayor Knight made a motion, seconded by Trustee Tinker to keep Public Hearing open till July 10, 2023 Board Meeting. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Fernandez to move NBT savings accounts (Water & Sewer Repairs, Pool Repairs, Recreation Commission Donation, and Unemployment Reserve) to NBC Bank to a Money Market for higher interest rate. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams to move NBT Tr-Centennial savings accounts to NBC Bank saving account for higher interest rate. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams to amend Sewer budget by moving funds to cover WWTP Bond: G9710.6 Debt Services \$41,731.00 to G9710.7 Debt Interest. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Clerk Laraway gave update: Working with two companies on getting inter office doors hardened; Gave Board updated balance sheet.

Public Comment: Deputy Mayor Knight stated Board is working with Attorney, NYCOM, Senate, and Assembly to get Oath of Office resolved.

Deputy Mayor Knight made a motion, seconded by Trustee Tinker to pay the Bills: Bills from the General

Fund in the amount of \$26,145.09 were audited and ordered paid. Bills from the Water Fund in the amount of \$3,671.75 were audited and ordered paid. Bills from the Sewer Fund in the amount of \$24,084.89 were audited and ordered paid. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

At 7:52pm Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams, to enter executive session to discuss litigation and personnel. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

At 8:56pm Deputy Mayor Knight made a motion, seconded by Trustee Tinker to re-enter back into regular session. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 3-0.

Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams to put ad in the paper for full time laborer. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 3-0

Deputy Mayor Knight made a motion, seconded by Trustee Tinker to hire for counsel on Stewart's Lawsuit: Whiteman, Osterman & Hanna LLP at \$300 per hour, with a \$5,000 dollar retainer. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 3-0.

**Correspondence:** 4/3/23 letter re: Mayor breakfast cancelled; 4/6/23 Questionnaire CDPHP; Midtel Quote for Codes Phone Line; 4/10/23 letter Gary Hayes re: vacant land Baker & Dexter Ave.; 4/11/23 Foil Gary Hayes re: Baker & Dexter Ave.; 4/12/23 Foil Gary Hayes re: site plan Bassett; 4/12/23 letter PERMA re: Ballot; 4/14/23 letter Charter Comm. re: channels; 4/17/23 letter DOT re: new Director; Letter Travelers re: Maloy renewal; 4/21/21 letter IDT no gross tax; Letter EDF Energy no gross tax; 4/24/23 letter Ooma no gross tax; 4/27/23 Foil David Jeremenko re: meeting agenda & minutes 1/2022-4/27/23; Foil David Jeremenko re: Parking tickets; Foil David Jeremenko re: New truck quote; Foil David Jeremenko re: Oktober Feast beer mugs money. 4/28/23 Letter Robert Kerley re: public comments.

Deputy Mayor Knight made a motion, seconded by Trustee Tinker to adjourn at 8:57pm. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 3-0.

Respectfully submitted by,

Melanie Laraway - Clerk.