

The regular meeting of the Village Board was held on January 8, 2024, at the Middleburgh Library.

Present: Mayor Timothy Knight; Trustees: Amanda Fernandez attended on Zoom, Sheryl Adams, Robert Tinker, Kevin Young Also present: Clerk Laraway, DPW Keyser, Attorney Mauhs, Fire Dept. Chief Gregory, Jason Diamond, Code Officer Fink, ZBA Wingfield, Yoav Tadmor, Times Journal Patsy Nicosia, Joanne Gruning, Philippa Dunne, Robert Kraus, Mountain Eagle David Avitabile.

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

Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Young, to approve Board minutes for December 4, 2023, and December 27, 2023. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Fire Chief Gregory Monthly Report: Presented the Board with 2023 incident reports; Working on recruiting new members; Engine 1221 has issues with power, working on repair; Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams to approve bid of \$ 5,696.48 for mini-split heating units in the meeting room and back room of the Fire House. Membership will install mini-splits at no charge. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0. Department getting prepared for upcoming bad weather.

Trustee Adams made a motion, seconded by Trustee Tinker to open public hearing on Water & Sewer Debt Redemption charges at 7:05pm. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0. The clerk discussed that due to new homes built in the Village in 2023, no increase to debt redemption charges will be needed this year.

Code Officer Fink Monthly Report: Things have been quiet; Issued fence permit on Chestnut; Issued permit for addition on Clauverwie.

DPW Superintendent Keyser monthly report:

Streets: Preparing for winter storm; One of the plows needs repair, waiting on parts.

Water: Water main repair on Clauverwie; waiting on brass parts to complete repair.

Sewer: Operations are working great.

Trustee Young made a motion, seconded by Trustee Tinker to open Public Hearing on Local Law #1 2024: Amend Zoning Short-Term Rentals at 7:10pm. Trustee Young informed the Board that the Planning Board reviewed local law and had no comments. ZBA President John Wingfield discussed difference between Bed & Breakfast and Short-Term Rentals and outlined what was in local law. Yoav Tadmor from Canaday Hill inquired about allowing percentage of Short-Term Rental Permits to be non owner occupied in the historical district. Discussion ensued.

Trustee Fernandez discussed making a basketball court on Wells Ave. where the skating rink is currently. It was the consensus of the Board to have Trustee Fernandez get quotes on turning the skating rink into basketball court.

The board discussed increasing charges for the cemetery: burials and lot fees. Mayor Knight will do some research and get back to the Board at the February meeting.

Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams to close Public Hearing on Water & Sewer debt redemption charges at 7:35 with no comments. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams to close Public Hearing on Local Law #1 2024 Amend Zoning Short-Term Rentals at 7:41pm with no further public comment. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Young to pass Local Law #1 2024 Amend Zoning Short-Term Rentals as presented: Mayor Knight requested a Roll Call Vote by Clerk.

Trustee Adams Yea: approves Local Law as written.

Trustee Tinker Yea: approves Local Law as written.

Trustee Young Yea: No changes, committee did a great job.

Trustee Fernandez Unable to vote: no changes agreed with Local Law as written.

Mayor Knight Yea: approves Local Law as written. This motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Young to Adopt Resolution #1 2024: Short-Term Rental permit application and fee schedule as presented. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Trustee Adams made a motion, seconded by Trustee Tinker to approve records destruction sheets 1 through 4 of 2024 for shredding. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Mayor Knight opened the floor for public comment: No public comment.

Clerk Laraway presented the Board with a monthly balance sheet.

Mayor Knight made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams to pay the Bills: Bills from the General Fund in the amount of \$ 66,458.57 were audited and ordered paid. Bills from the Water Fund in the amount of \$ 48,323.85 were audited and ordered paid. Bills from the Sewer Fund in the amount of \$ 10,968.02 were audited and ordered paid. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Trustee Young made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams to enter executive session at 7:43 pm to discuss ongoing litigation with advice of Village Attorney. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams to enter back into regular session at 8:18 pm. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Young, to accept low bid of \$1,250.00 Hasto's Electric for installation of four outdoor lights at the Depot. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Mayor Knight made a motion, seconded by Trustee Tinker to approve certificate as to incumbency 2024 for the Schoharie Board of Election. No one is running for election in 2024. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Correspondence:12/1/23 letter Charter re: channels; Letter DOT re: bridge program; Letters National Grid re: change service; 12/6/23 letter Village re: Library; Letter IRS re: address; 12/8/23 letter Charter re: channels; Letter Crisbro re: Backflow; Letter Energo re: agreement; 12/15/23 letter Village re: The Mt Eagle not charges for legals; Response Mt Eagle re: yes no charge for 2024; Letters Pacetec, Idt Corp re: no gross tax; 12/28/23 letter Charter re: channels;

Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Young, to adjourn at 8:30pm. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted by

Melanie Laraway - Clerk.