

The regular meeting of the Village Board was held on October 7, 2024, at the Middleburgh Library.

Present: Mayor Timothy Knight; Trustees: Amanda Fernandez, Sheryl Adams, Robert Tinker, Kevin Young. Also present: Clerk Laraway, Attorney Mauhs, Fire Chief Gregory, David Avitabile – Mountain Eagle., Patsy Nicosia-Times Journal, Zoom: No one.

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

Mayor Knight made the following announcements: Fall Festival will be October 12th at 11am, Village Flag unveiling at 10:30, followed by Marge and Randy Becker person of the year award. Oktoberfest 12:30 to 5:30pm on Baker Ave.

Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Young, to approve Board minutes for September 9, 2024. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Trustee Tinker made a motion to open Public Hearing on Local Law #3-2024: Overriding Tax Cap at 7:05pm. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Fire Chief Gregory Monthly Report: Working on putting commercial dishwasher in kitchen; New wall by Flagpole donated by Troidls; Trustee Tinker inquired about inflation rates causing hardship for fire department. Chief Gregory stated they should be fine.

Code Officer Fink Monthly Report: Unable to attend meeting. Mayor Knight stated he has been working on building permits, issuing vendor truck inspections, etc.

DPW Cole Keyser Monthly Report: Unable to attend meeting. Gave written report.

General: Finishing up mowing season, Getting Baker Ave. pavilion, grounds, and moving picnic tables to get ready for Oktoberfest, Planning on doing one more round of potholes patching prior to blacktop plant closing.

Water: Fixed service line leak to goes to community garden with a new pex tubing, Fixed service line leak on Grove Street, Finishing the computer work for lead service line inventory. It is approximately 35/40% complete; while approximately 50% complete re: homeowner connections.

Sewer: Plant is working great, no issues.

Halloween Curfew local law needs to be sent to Schoharie County Sheriff's Office.

Attorney Mauhs went over proposed Resolution #13-2024: Procurement Policy and Procedure. He went over the bullet points of multiple quotes, threshold of purchase amount and procedures for each threshold. Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams to table consideration of Resolution #13-2024 until November 4, 2024, at the Board meeting.

111 Railroad Ave. discussion: Environmental Survey quotes: Mayor Knight stated he has only received one quote for environmental company. It was the consensus of the Board to reach out to Cavers to see if they would be interested. The litigation process to acquire property would take about 4-6 months; then asbestos survey would need to be done. Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Young to start the process to acquire 111 Railroad Ave. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Trustee Fernandez updated on T-Mobile grant: The grant has been submitted, letters of recommendation were needed: Thank you to Mayor Knight, Justin Hamm, Mr. Johns, and John Crescimanno.

Deputy Mayor Adams updated on Oktoberfest: Event will be from 12:30 to 5:30pm, admission fee will be \$15, there will be five breweries, food vendors, music & band. They will be selling etched mugs, t-shirts, and there will be games for the kids.

Trustee Tinker inquired about National Grid being a bit slow at replacing lights to LEDs. He stated there are only a few LED lights in the Village and is unsure why. Previous conversations with National Grid stated that all lights that need to be repaired due to them not working would be replaced with LEDs. It was the consensus of the Board to have Trustee Tinker and Mayor Knight write a letter inquiring about why lights have yet to be replaced with LEDs to National Grid.

Mayor Knight gave Budget Officer Report: Had first budget workshop 10/7/24; Zero percent property tax increase for the 2025 Budget – due to thirteen new homes on tax roll; stronger Sales Tax revenue; banking Interest strong. Increased line items – Sidewalks \$5,000, Parking meters \$4,100, Park Improvements \$3,000, Litigation for Railroad Ave. \$4,000, Fire Department \$5,000. The 2026 budget will be more challenging.

Trustee Fernandez thanked Middleburgh Rotary for helping with digging horseshoe pits in Badley Park. Big thank you to Middleburgh Telephone Company for helping dig the holes in Badgley Park for the art park's new art installation.

Trustee Young made a motion, seconded by Trustee Tinker to move funds: F822 Water System Repair \$10,000 to line item F8340.2 Equipment and F101 Water System Repairs \$28,241.00 to F8340.2 Equipment for new generator. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Trustee Young made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams to move funds: A2401 revenue Interest \$970.27 to A1420.4 Attorney expenses and A1990.0 Contingent \$7,500 to A1420.4 Attorney expenses to cover litigation cost for American Heritage Restoration, Gorge Creek. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Public Comment: No comments.

Trustee Young made a motion, seconded by Trustee Tinker, to enter executive session at 7:35pm to discuss ongoing litigation with advice of Village Attorney. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Trustee Young made a motion, seconded by Trustee Tinker, to enter back into regular session at 7:59pm. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Mayor Knight made a motion, seconded by Trustee Fernandez to pay the Bills: Bills from the General Fund in the amount of \$33,368.26 were audited and ordered paid. Bills from the Water Fund in the amount of \$48,392.46 were audited and ordered paid. Bills from the Sewer Fund in the amount of \$2,675.90 were audited and ordered paid. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Clerk Laraway presented the Board with Balance Sheet and Budget vs. Actual for General, Water and Sewer.

Correspondence: 9/17/24 Charter Comm. re: channels; 9/23/24 letter Lady of the Valley Church re: Wells Ave.; 9/23/24 Gross Tax from IDT Corp, PAEREC Comm., Compliance Solution; 9/24/24 letter Village of Middleburgh re: T-Mobile Grant

Trustee Tinker made a motion, seconded by Trustee Adams to adjourn at 7.59PM. Upon roll call vote, this motion was unanimously carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted by Melanie Laraway - Clerk.