

12/20/22 Board of Trustees

Regular Meeting

6:30 PM Community House

Present: Village Clerk/Treasurer Jayna Cool, Trustees: Kathy Buckley, Art Dockerty, and Jim Castrucci. **Absent:** Connie Grant

Public: Lia Marrero, Dawn White-Swartz, Richard Ianni, Michael O’Dockerty, Alexandria Richards, Angela Jones, Gary Warn, and Katrina Caringi

Attorney: Norman Mastromoro

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Deputy Mayor Dockerty and the salute to the flag was given.

Public Comment: Katrina Caringi asked the board if they watched the Webinar discussed last month by Dawn White-Swartz, state funding, infrastructure, questions Dawn requested regarding the Burgess well, Village Facebook being labeled as “official”, and use of fire pit by the Friends of St. Johnsville.

Dawn White-Swartz discussed the Planning Board, surprise of Burgess well kicking on as much as it does, and thoughts about the cost associated if Burgess ran 24/7/365.

Lia Marrero discussed the Site Access agreement.

Department Heads:

Fire Department: Fire Chief Shannon Countryman flooding in the men’s bathroom, their alarm system not being functional in the Fire Department, the Fire Dept members were out the door in less than 5 minutes when the Town of Minden had their fire, out of 140 calls there were only 2 calls when they were not able to respond until the second tone. Deputy Mayor Dockerty discussed the protocol when adding vehicles to the Village Insurance Policy and Trustee Castrucci and Fire Chief Countryman had a discussion on fire contracts. Attorney Mastromoro informed everyone that it does not matter who writes the fire contracts as long as everyone is in agreement with them. There was a discussion regarding the 35% the Fire Dept is requesting in the contracts, with no agreement being made at this time. Fire Chief Countryman stated the Village would only save around \$750.00 by not renewing the contracts expense wise but would lose over \$97,000.00 on the income side if they’re not renewed. Report submitted.

DPW: DPW Superintendent Jarrod Walrath stated the Cemetery is closed, the leak survey was completed with three small leaks reported on N. Division, Church, and Averill. Jarrod discussed helping the Town of Minden as needed after the fire they had. A discussion occurred between Jarrod, Dawn White-Swartz, and Katrina Caringi regarding the Burgess Well. The annual health inspection for the Dome, Filter Plant, and well in the next 30 to 45 days. Report submitted.

WWTP: No one present, Report submitted.

Police: Police Chief Donald VanDeusen discussed the camera installation, issues with Police Vehicles, lease agreements vs purchasing new vehicle, and an ongoing investigation

regarding stolen guns. To date the Police Department have recovered 7 out of the 12 stolen weapons and 7 arrests have been made. Report submitted.

Codes: A motion was made by Trustee Castrucci and seconded by Deputy Mayor Dockerty to adopt Local Law #1 of 2023 for presentation at a public hearing to be held January 17th at 6:15 PM for the new 1203 Uniform Code. All ayes, motion carried. There have been 53 building permits issues so far for 2022. Report submitted.

Marina: No one present, no report.

Treasurer: Jayna Cool contacted NBT on interest rates per Trustee Buckley's request. NBT will increase the interest rate from .02% to 1.25%. Community Bank is offering 2.5% interest still. A motion was made by Trustee Castrucci and seconded by Trustee Buckley to move the Savings Accounts from NBT to Community Bank to take advantage of the interest gains totaling \$87,048.64. All ayes, motion carried. A motion was made by Trustee Castrucci and seconded by Trustee Buckley to renew the four CDs with Community Bank for a one-year term at 1.25%. All ayes, motion carried. CD's amounts are as follows: \$9,187.26, \$21,710.05, \$10,361.68, and \$25,262.08. Jayna informed the board she has been working on budget preparation for the 23/24 fiscal year. Resolutions #6-#9 were tabled. Report submitted.

Legal: Attorney Mastromoro discussed the Ephratah tax proceeding. The appraiser needs a breakdown of easements the Village has in Fulton County on the watershed property to determine value. The SAVAC easement was approved by Shannon Countryman and Deputy Mayor Dockerty. The board instructed Attorney Mastromoro to file the Easement with the County. A motion to approve printing of check for \$55.00 and filing of the Easement by Attorney Mastromoro with the County was made by Trustee Castrucci and seconded by Trustee Buckley. All ayes, motion carried. A motion was made by Trustee Castrucci and seconded by Trustee Buckley for approval of Deputy Mayor Dockerty to sign the Easement agreement regarding the Fire Dept and CCI Enterprises. All ayes, motion carried.

Old Business: The Village Board needs to sit as a group to discuss the roles needed to be filled by the Planning Board and guidelines under New York State law. Attorney Mastromoro explained the reasoning behind a Planning Board appointment needing to be the first Monday in April per law, which also gives member who want to join the Planning Board time to do what is mandated. A motion was made by Trustee Castrucci and seconded by Trustee Buckley to adopt Local Law #2 of 2023 for presentation at a public hearing to be held January 17th at 6:30 PM to establish a Planning Board. Clerk/Treasurer Jayna Cool presented the board with a spreadsheet of possible future expenses for WWTP and Water for review to be discussed at next months meeting. Chicken discussion was tabled.

Consent Agenda: A motion to **create** a **consent agenda** consisting of the minutes of the 11/15/22 Regular Meeting, DPW, WWTP, Police, Codes and Treasurer's reports was made by Trustee Castrucci and seconded by Trustee Buckley. All ayes, motion carried. A motion to **adopt** said **Agenda** was made by Trustee Buckley and seconded by Trustee Castrucci. All ayes, motion carried.

Audit of Claims: A motion to **accept** the claims as presented to the Board as approved to the Board by the Clerk, in the amount of **\$322,971.08** was made by Deputy Mayor Dockerty and seconded by Trustee Castrucci. All ayes, motion carried. The claims are broken down as follows:

General Fund:	\$ 202,302.67
Cemetery Fund:	\$ 3.14
Marina Fund:	\$ 37,653.23
Water Fund:	\$ 4,536.05
Sewer Fund:	\$ 60,457.99

New Business: Village Treasurer Jayna Cool presented the Board with the current Purchasing Policy to review and discuss at next months meeting. A motion was made by Trustee Buckley and seconded by Trustee Castrucci to allow a second turn on fee of \$75.00 if someone has a check returned for insufficient funds after having their water turned back on. All ayes, motion carried.

Public Comment: Lia Marrero asked if the Board had received any word from Blue Triton, Inc. regarding the SEQR, to which the Board has not.

Other:

A motion to go into executive session at 8:41 PM to discuss code violations and minimum wage increase was made by Trustee Buckley and seconded by Trustee Castrucci. All ayes, motion carried.

A motion to come out of executive session into regular session was made by Trustee Buckley and seconded by Trustee Castrucci. All ayes, motion carried.

No action taken in executive session.

A motion to adjourn at 9:15 PM was made by Trustee Castrucci and seconded by Trustee Buckley. All ayes, motion carried.

Next meeting-January 17th at 6:30 PM