

11/15/22 Board of Trustees

Regular Meeting

6:30 PM Community House

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

Public: Lia Marrero, Dawn White-Swartz, Richard Ianni, Rich Brown, Traci Montoni, Dawn Lamphere, Michael O'Dockerty, Alexandria Richards, Michael Swartz, Gary Warn, Angela Jones, Chris & Shelley Arduini

Attorney: Absent

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

Public Comment: Angela Jones handed the board a paper with suggestions on it for allowing chickens in the Village. Dawn White-Swartz discussed notifications and webinars on the DEC website, the old Collect building, and, turned in petitions regarding the sale of Village water to Blue Triton Brands, Inc. Dawn Lamphere spoke about the Christmas tree lighting to take place on December 4th. Traci Montoni discussed the Planning Board.

Department Heads:

Fire Department: Fire Chief Shannon Countryman discussed the new Bauer Air Compressor, Engine 3 annual PM, 5 valves replaced and ready to be picked up, Jerome doing training on the compressor free of charge, the Oppenheim Tanker is at the Fire Department and the St. Johnsville Fire Department has permission to use the tanker, which has been added to our insurance policy. There was a lengthy conversation regarding Engine 6. Trustee Grant wanted it stated on record that she has never said she hates the Fire Department, or any members in the Fire Department. Report submitted.

DPW: DPW Superintendent Jarrod Walrath was not present at the beginning of the meeting but arrived later. Report submitted.

WWTP: No one present, Report submitted.

Police: Police Chief Donald VanDeusen discussed high costs affecting his budget, especially for the fuel budget line. The Village Police have made 100 arrests this year, up from the 62 last year. Don presented a "large event permit" to the board. Report submitted.

Codes: A motion was made by Trustee Grant and seconded by Trustee Castrucci to allow Attorney Mastromoro to prepare Local Law #3 of 2022 for Presentation at the December 20th Board Meeting for the new 1203 Uniform Code. All ayes, motion carried. Report submitted.

Marina: No one present, no report.

Treasurer: Jayna Cool discussed the Fire Department funds. A motion was made by Trustee Grant and seconded by Trustee Castrucci to allow Jayna to open a Village Checking Account at NBT bank for \$162,743.91, to print a check to the St. Johnsville Fire Department Inc., for \$21,516.52 for the 35% of all Fire Contracts for the year 2019, and a check in the amount of

\$3,668.00 for 35% of Town of Danube #2 Fire Contract paid to the St. Johnsville Fire Department, Inc. All ayes, motion carried. The Board voted not to approve resolution #6 regarding the Fire Contract #1 and #2 with the Town of Danube for a 3-year term. Fire Chief Shannon Countryman stated to the Board she prefers all contracts to be for a one-year term. Jayna presented an interest comparison from Community Bank and NBT Bank. Currently we acquire .02% interest from NBT Bank. Community Bank is offering 2.5% interest rate. Trustee Buckley requested Jayna contact NBT to see if they would match the rate of Community Bank then reassess at December's Board Meeting. Report submitted.

Legal: Village Treasurer Jayna Cool spoke on Attorney Mastromoro's behalf. The appraiser met with DPW Superintendent Jarrod Walrath to inspect the transmission lines and is currently waiting to see what other information the appraiser needs. SAVAC Easement is on hold, and the Fire Department Easement is finalized and approved, just needs to be signed.

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. Deputy Mayor Dockerty informed the public that the Village was not pursuing the purchase of property in Fulton County due to the Village not being able to utilize the property for benefit to residents. ADT will be finishing the new security system next Wednesday.

Consent Agenda: A motion to **create** a **consent agenda** consisting of the minutes of the 10/18/22 Regular Meeting, DPW, WWTP, Police, Codes and Treasurer's reports was made by Trustee Grant and seconded by Trustee Buckley. All ayes, motion carried. A motion to **adopt** said **Agenda** was made by Trustee Grant and seconded by Trustee Buckley. 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 **\$94,935.21** was made by Trustee Castrucci and seconded by Trustee Grant. All ayes, motion carried. The claims are broken down as follows:

General Fund:	\$ 63,638.39
Cemetery Fund:	\$ 1,000.00
Marina Fund:	\$ 18,122.18
Water Fund:	\$ 5,150.83
Sewer Fund:	\$ 7,023.81

New Business: Village Treasurer Jayna Cool presented the Board with a spreadsheet of residents who requested payment plans for their water bills before the November 28th shut off. The Board decided not to allow any payment plans and any unpaid bills would require a shut off on November 28th. The Board did allow a payment option for 29 Averill due to the death of the owner, and the daughter not knowing about the bill. Chris Arduini discussed ice skating at the park. The cost to the Village insurance would be \$550.00. Dawn Lamphere and Michael Swartz offered to go halves on the new insurance cost.

Public Comment: Lia Marrero asked the Board to not have any discussion regarding Blue Triton Inc. at the December meeting, stating it would be a nice Christmas gift from the Village to the residents, and her concern over the Board meeting the previous year being a few days before Christmas. Village Treasurer Jayna Cool stated the meetings are always the 3rd Tuesday of the month and the Board cannot control how close the meeting falls before Christmas. Michael Swartz discussed Engine 6, to which the Board said they will not be investing money in and will try and sell it. He also discussed the water main break which occurred on November 8th, addressing Fire Chief Countryman as Chief and not Shannon, the Marina, Fire Hydrants, and gave a nice compliment to Village Treasurer Jayna Cool on the work she's been doing to help the Fire Department regarding the Fire Department funds.

A motion was made by Trustee Grant and seconded by Trustee Castrucci to go into executive session at 8:34 PM to discuss item 6g evaluation of employees at Village Office, 6f pending Code violations and prospective litigation regarding 12 East Main Street, and 10a Police Full-Time Employment Agreement. All ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Grant and seconded by Trustee Castrucci to come out of executive session and into the regular meeting at 9:22 PM. All ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Grant and seconded by Trustee Castrucci to approve the raise for Marissa Nellis, Deputy Clerk, to \$16.25 per hour. All ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Grant and seconded by Trustee Buckley to approve the use of ARPA money for "Covid bonus" to Full time and Part time employees who worked through the pandemic. All ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Castrucci and seconded by Trustee Grant to approve the pay of the two Full time Police Officers as \$23.00 per hour for the first year effective immediately, then to increase to \$26.00 per hour after the first year. All ayes, motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Grant and seconded by Trustee Castrucci to hire William Vicciarelli at \$18.00 per hour to the DPW in 2 weeks, and to increase Kevin Smith to \$19.00 per hour effective immediately. All ayes, motion carried.

No action was taken on the other executive session items.

Other:

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:23 PM was made by Trustee Buckley and seconded by Trustee Grant. All ayes, motion carried.

Next meeting-December 20th at 6:30 PM