

VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

March 19,2018 7 PM

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Mayor Neville called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

Present were: Mayor Neville, Trustees-Conger, Morey, and Holl and Evener, Charles Rankin-Administrator, Steve Teeter-Electric Utility Supervisor, Mike Andersen-Code Enf. Officer, Tim Williams-Police OIC, and Ben Nelson, Mike Neville & Lee Shurtleff – Fire Department, Nancy Niswender – Clerk-Treasurer, Terry Walpole Trustee Elect, Garret, Sheldon and Crystal Clark, Liz Richey, Jason Contell.

Pledge of allegiance.

The Mayor opened up the meeting thanking Jeff Evener for being on the Board for the past 10+ years and he will truly be missed and for his guidance.

Trustee Holl made a motion to accept the February 20, 2018 minutes with edits, seconded by Trustee Morey, carried.

Trustee Conger made a motion to approve the claims presented for review and to adjust the budget as follows:

General Fund

From Contingent – 1990.4 - \$3,136.00

To: Treasurer Cont. - - 1325.4 - \$ 34.00
Village Buildings Cont. – 1620.4 - \$ 102.00
Streets Pers Serv - 5110.1 - \$3,000.00

Joint Rec Fund

From Contingent – 1990.4 - \$105.00

To: Girls Basketball - 7145.43 - \$105.00

Seconded by Trustee Evener, carried. The above adjustments and claims paid are covered by the following lists of abstracts of audited vouchers:

GENERAL (A9)	\$ 168,828.23	ELECTRIC (E9)	\$ 146,776.21
WATER (F9)	3,446.33	JOINT REC (J9)	841.13
SEWER (G9)	9,738.84		

Bids for purchase of the Skate Park equipment were opened.

1 Bid was presented for \$200 for the cost of the equipment from the Clark Family.

No other Bids were presented. Trustee Evener made a motion to accept the bid, 2nd by Trustee Holl, carried.

Department Reports:

Police Department- Chief Williams reported – 415 calls for the year. Someone has been going through cars on Elm Street. Notice to keep vehicles locked. Officer Keegan is back from medical leave. Spring Fire Arms training will be held by the end of April or sooner. Training will be done with quick clot and tourniquet usage and updating policies.

Joint Recreation- Trustee Conger reported – Youth Basketball is done for the season, Dave Dykeman is retiring, Youth Wrestling has 14 participants (2 girls) Coaches Lockwood and Brockway, Cabin Fever made \$461 and had approx. 560 people attend this year, Zumba was cancelled as the instructor broke her arm, Babysitting class had 13 attendees, Youth Baseball/Softball registration is open and track should be starting the end of April or beginning of May. Summer Camp preview program is set for April 27th at the Elementary School.

The Summer Programming has begun. 99% of the concerts are booked (Jennifer Jones is negotiating a price for the final one) Lifeguards positions have been posted. Girl Scout sponsored National Night out is set for August 7th.

Groton Youth Services- Annual report-140 kids were impacted – with duplicates there were 437 in programs. Rural youth services held a Winter Olympics in Danby– 6 Groton kids went. 6 Girls went to the SU Game; Girls Venture went to Seneca Falls Museum.

Sewer- Trustee Morey reported- A motor had air valves replaced and press parts installed and it is up and running. Pall Corp has more trailers in for cleaning.

Electric – Administrator Rankin reported – PSC has a special rider to allow us to charge a higher rate to facilities using 400+ amps. Rate should be approved today. IEEP is offering a \$200 rebate for anyone putting in solar.

Suprv. Teeter reported – NYS Lineman Safety Training Inspection in last Thursday to test gloves/blankets. All pretty good – 1 glove needed replacement.

A new pole and transformer have been installed at Scott Pinney's (bit-coin) location.

Street lights were installed on Clark Street from the cemetery to the vault.

We have been getting caught up on tree trimming. Last week we attended Engineering workshop for 2 days. We have been helping with snow plowing and helped at Sewer plant to install a pressure relief valve.

DPW- Supv Shurtleff reported- They have been plowing and salting on a regular basis, although it should be winding down they brought in another 110 tons in due to the weather. New water service was installed at 778 Elm St. We completed 3 tons of cold patching all around the Village which will need to be redone due to the weather. We repaired the plumbing for the orthophosphate at Conger Wells. We installed a catch basin and pipe at the Village garage which has been needed for several years. We have been working on general maintenance to equipment and getting the sweeper ready for spring clean-up.

Fire Department- Reported – 186 Ambulance calls and 30 Fire calls.

The Fire Department is due to go the Elementary School on March 31st at 9:30 for a presentation. 2 applications for membership were presented and recorded– Lisa Mascato – Conger Hose Company and Tom Bishop for the Citizens Hook and Ladder.

Code Enforcer – Attended the Planning Board Public Hearing today at 4:30 –Chatham Sheep Herding- Dave Galton. Had calls for Bee problems at DeMatteo’s new place on Church Street. Dave Dematteo would like Specs on Sprinkler system required to be installed.

Attended a class – Case Laws – Schools need to abide by Village Laws – Discussion of their sign, they will need a variance as it is a flashing sign. The Sr. Center 200 W. South St. - 3 handicap apartments have been renovated; new windows and doors.

Mayor Neville inquired about State Road Lights – OK if it is for Traffic Control – Informational signs are not supposed to be flashing.

Public Comments- Liz Richey -

- 1- We have noticed some homes without house numbers, are they mandatory? Ben Nelson mentioned the Fire Department has blue reflective lettering available for sale. Mike Anderson states that it is a State code – 4” letter or if 911 enhanced then 2 ½ “We will add a mention on the Electric Bill.
- 2- Question – did Power Plant go offline a few years ago? No this is not true.
- 3- Building of former fish farm producing yogurt or cheese? – It is actually the Old Challenge building and is a Goat and Sheep cheese factory.
- 4- Questions about Jennifer’s cost of Bands. This was clarified.
- 5- Thank You for all the beautiful plowing.

Trustee Jeff Evener took this time to comment that 11 years goes by fast, he thanked the following: Lee Shurtleff who convinced him to run for office, the Village office staff, LT Williams his first hire as Mayor, Chad & Steve for helping with the change of the leadership structure successfully, Chuck Rankin for his guidance, Dennis Toolan and Chris Neville 2 great Mayors, the Fire Department and the Board past and present. Best of Luck.

Trustee Conger made a motion declaring April as Fair Housing Month, 2nd by Trustee Morey, carried

Trustee Morey made a motion to set the date of the Annual Organizational Meeting on April 2nd at 6:45, 2nd Trustee Holl, carried.

Trustee Conger made a motion the hold a Public Hearing for the 2018-19 Tentative Budget on April 16th at 7:30pm, 2nd by Trustee Morey, carried.

We received a letter from Attorney Peter Elliott concerning the balance owed on a water bill for a property he was attempting to sell for a client. The amount owed is \$5,387.35. He states this is more than 10% of the value of the property and would like to know if the village would consider a reduction.

After some discussion – Trustee Holl made a motion to reduce the amount to \$4,290 if they were to pay it in 90 days, 2nd Trustee Morey, carried.

Building Committee update – The building design is in progress – Edwin Harrington has presented some initial plans for review. Kick-off is set for April 28th, Administrator Rankin is designing a newsletter and we will have an ad in the Shopper. We have scheduled a band, bounce house and other activities. The GFD will be doing a raffle of 1000 tickets at \$10 each and 50/50 the day of the event (all to help sell). Dave Deforest is providing a 20x40 tent. The Fire Department is planning on cooking 400 chicken halves. The Fire Department, Police Department and Village will have trucks and vehicles at the event.

A discussion followed about the adoption of a Beautification committee to be formed to cut down on the traffic within the office. Recommendation was made to possibly offer a \$300 stipend to a chair or \$200 each for 2 chairs. Clerk-Treasurer Niswender will contact members and conduct a meeting to discuss.

A Budget Session followed - We have received the funds from NY State IAP Program of \$175,000.00 – 40% of this will need to be paid back, but as we have already covered the expenses meant for this – should we consider putting this toward the building fund? Motion made by Trustee Conger to apply the \$105,000 to the building fund and \$70,000 that will be due to an account to be held to be paid back. 2nd Trustee Evener, carried. Other items were updated and discussion followed on whether to raise water and sewer rates as fund balances are getting low. We will do up some estimates and send to Board for review.

8:30pm – Break to Executive Session

8:53 Return from Executive Session.

Trustee Conger had a motion to transfer the Grant for the Bowling Alley to New proposed Owner – restarting the grant at 5 years pending required paperwork is approved. 2nd Trustee Evener, carried.

Motion to adjourn at 8:55 by Trustee Conger, 2nd Trustee Evener.

Nancy Niswender
Village Clerk-Treasurer