

**VILLAGE OF VALATIE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MARCH 8, 2016**

ATTENDANCE

Mayor Diane Argyle
Trustee Frank Bevens
Trustee Phil Bickerton
Trustee David Williams
Trustee Angelo Nero
Robert Fitzsimmons, Esq.

AUDIENCE

2 residents, Maureen Seel
1 reporter

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Resolution # 121 was made by Trustee Bevens to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2016 minutes as presented. Trustee Nero seconded, all in favor, carried.

Resolution # 122 was made by Trustee Bickerton to approve payment of claims 2016-10-#427-467 for a total of \$31,625.12 and the off abstract total of \$42,337.61 which includes a BAN payment. Trustee Williams seconded, all in favor, carried.

There were no public comments.

Fire Dept.- No Chief officers were in attendance. The Mayor congratulated the Fire Company on a great Spaghetti Dinner Fund Raiser. Trustee Bevens will have the paperwork soon for a grant for a new floor in one of the apparatus bays. The total cost to replace the floor is approximately \$200,000.

Theatre- Mayor Argyle met with the Engineer regarding the structural safety of the building. Trustee Williams will contact Sam Austin regarding the Air Conditioning. The current system was actually meant for another building but was donated to the theater.

Parks- Beavers at Pachaquack Park are chopping up the Poplar Trees. Nathan Becker will charge \$100 to place wire mesh around the base of the trees to prevent the beavers from damaging more trees. A resident also saw a dead beaver along a trail in the park. Trapping season for beavers ends April 9th if the board would like to pursue this.

-The Pavilion roof and poles need replacing in Callan Park. Trustee Bickerton will get quotes to replace both.

Resolution #123 was made by Trustee Bevens to approve Nathan Becker's quote for landscaping services. Trustee Williams seconded, all in favor, carried.

Resolution #124 was made by Trustee Bickerton to approve a contract with Tru Green for weed control at the same price quote as last year. Trustee Bevens seconded the motion, all in favor, carried. Tru Green was the only company to submit a quote.

Water/ Sewer Dept.- Monthly report is on file in the Clerk's Office. Hopefully the closing on the Sewer plant project will take place soon. Final paperwork is being submitted with help from Delaware Engineering. A letter was also received from the Village of Kinderhook regarding issues with their sewer meter. The Board discussed their letter and the Mayor offered to write a letter in response to them stating that we will work with them regarding their payment to us but they need to straighten the issue out within 2 quarters.

V.E.R.A.- Randall Schmitt commented that people are already calling to participate in the Artisan Fair. He also attended a Media Forum at Columbia Greene Community College regarding how to work with the Press on Strategic Planning. This was a public session on how to accelerate Economic Prosperity in the County.

Clerk- Paperwork is being completed for the Senior Center and Energy Onix Building for the Community Development Block Grants. A quote was received from General Code to update our Zoning Law Books. A budget workshop(s) needs to be set up for the budget. The Board decided to have the first meeting on March 22, 2016 at 6:30pm.

- Paper Shredding will take place again outside the Clerk's Office from March 14th- March 31st. This will now take place quarterly.

Mayor- Mayor Argyle stated that the office is being re-arranged a little bit to make a new space for the Building Inspector. Mr. Condra would also like to become a contractor with the Village instead of on salary.

- There will be a Village Wide Litter Cleanup Day with Volunteers on April 30, 2016 between the hours of 9:00 am- 12 noon. This cleanup activity is being headed up by Village Resident Nick Becker. Anyone interested in helping can contact Mr. Becker. This will be advertised on the Village website.
- The Senior Center would like to have another table because they get a pretty good crowd now on Fridays. The Building Inspector inspected the building and informed the Mayor of the occupancy rating for the Senior Center which is 78 persons allowed.
- The Library would like to use the Senior Center for a photo contest on April 10, 2016.

Resolution # 125 was made by Trustee Bevens to allow the Library to use the Senior Center for a photo contest on April 10th. Trustee Bickerton seconded, all in favor, carried.

Highway Dept.- Brush pickup will take place starting on April 11th until Memorial Day. Pickup will only take place on Mondays and branches/trees may only be 6 inches in diameter and only 6 feet long. It will begin again in the fall and continue through November or until the first snow. Sweeping of the streets will take place in May.

Other business- Trustee Bickerton asked if he could be reimbursed for a portion of his Video Surveillance Camera bill which was used in viewing some burglaries on Mechanic Street. Rob Fitzsimmons stated that the Board needed S & F to voucher the Village and then the Board could reimburse Trustee Bickerton.

The Board discussed signing a shared services agreement with NY State at a previous meeting. The Mayor spoke to Highway Superintendent John Ruchel who had reservations about signing it. Rob stated that Mr. Ruchel should clarify his issues but then this should be passed on to the Town of Kinderhook.

Water shutoffs- An email was received from a resident and the Board will discuss the matter in executive session.

MHG Applications-

1. The Niverville Fire Department asked to use rooms for their annual firefighter physicals on May 9th from 4:30- 9:00pm
2. The Little League would like to hold a meeting in the building on March 16th from 7-8 pm.
3. The Little League would like to have a safety clinic meeting for coaches only on April 13th at 7:00 pm in the courtroom area.
4. The Northern Columbia Softball League would like use of the park on Sunday's from April- September.
5. Dave Ames would like to hold a baseball camp

Resolution #126 was made by Trustee Bevins to approve the above applications. Trustee Nero seconded, all in favor, carried.

A letter was received by the Northern Columbia Little League asking for first rights to use the fields at Callan Park. The Board discussed this but felt that they should not be given total control of the fields since many other organizations would like to use them as well. The Mayor will contact the President of the organization to discuss this matter.

The Columbia Clippers would like to place a sign at Callan Park stating that they are State Champions. They would also like to present the kids with their World Series Rings at their first game of the season.

Resolution # 127 was made by Trustee Bevins to allow the Columbia Clippers to place a sign at Callan Park stating they are State Champions. Trustee Williams seconded the motion, all in favor, carried.

Emelia Teasdale who is on the Board of Directors for the Family Resource Center, asked if the Martin H. Glynn building would be available for use 2 days a week for about 2 hours each day for free playgroups for pre-schoolers. She stated that this group would need to find funding first

to hold these play groups. She was informed to ask the Town to see if there is a room available upstairs.

Resolution # 128 was made by Trustee Bevens to enter into executive session at 8:13 pm to discuss a residents' water bill/shutoff and other business before the Board. Trustee Bickerton seconded the motion, all in favor, carried.

Resolution # 129 was made to exit out of executive session at 8:58 pm by Trustee Nero, seconded by Trustee Williams. All in favor, carried.

Resolution # 130 was made by Trustee Bickerton to purchase a new accounting program from Enhanced Business Systems based out of Albany, NY and to hire Maureen Seel to be the new Bookkeeper. Trustee Bevens seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Resolution # 131 was made by Trustee Bevens to allow the Village Clerk to re-levy delinquent resident water bills on to their taxes this year. Trustee Bickerton seconded the motion, all in favor, carried.

In other business, it was noted that the sign at Holly Hills is rotting. The Board will have the sign removed and replaced by another more durable sign with better posts.

With no further business to discuss,

Resolution # 132 was made by Trustee Bickerton to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 pm. Trustee Bevens seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Fischer
Village Clerk/Treasurer