VILLAGE OF VALATIE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

May 8, 2018

7:00 P.M.

**PRESENT**  **AUDIENCE**

Mayor Diane Argyle Fire Chief Rustin Dolan

Trustee Frank Bevens Carol Williams

Trustee Larry Eleby Paula Beaudoin

Trustee Angelo Nero Randall Schmitt

Trustee David Williams. Mr. and Mrs. BJ Cantele

Robert Fitzsimmons, Esq. Columbia Paper reporter

Mayor Argyle called the meeting at 7:00pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Resolution #118** was made by Trustee Bevens to approve the minutes of April 26, 2018. Trustee Eleby seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Resolution #119** was made by Trustee Nero to pay claims 2018-12-#515-543 for a total of $22,463.59 and $18,223.11 for off abstract bills making $40,686.70 for a total of all bills. Trustee Williams seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Public Comment**- Paula Beaudoin inquired about a letter she had sent to the Mayor in September 2017 regarding whether the highway department was going to work on Mill Street but had not heard back from anyone. Mayor Argyle commented that she had given her letter to Town Highway Supervisor John Ruchel.

Mrs. Beaudoin stated that trees are leaning over on to her house and there are many potholes in the road. She stated that the Town plows up to her neighbors’ house and then stops. She questioned whether this section of the road is owned by the Village and would like the road to be maintained. Attorney Fitzsimmons commented that the deed for the road needs to be pulled from the County Clerk’s office to see if it is indeed in the Village. Mayor Argyle and Trustee Bevens will speak to John Ruchel to see what he found out about the road. Mrs. Beaudoin left her phone number so she could be contacted.

Mr. and Mrs. B.J. Cantele also attended the meeting to ask the Board for some relief from tax penalties for the property that they bought that was the former ValKin Restaurant property. The Board had a long discussion on whether they would be setting a precedent or not for other property owners in the Village. A question was posed to Mr. Fitzsimmons on whether the Board could give any relief for tax penalties. Mr. Fitzsimmons stated that the Board can do that.

Mr. Cantele explained that the title agency had not done a search of back taxes for the property when he had purchased the property. He explained that he should have been a little more diligent in finding out about the back taxes but also explained that he has put a lot of money into the whole process. Mrs. Cantele commented that this has been a long 3 year project with a lot of delays that were not their fault so they were hoping to get even just a little relief in the penalties.

The Board continued their discussion and decided to discuss it further in executive session.

**Fire Department**- (report on file in Clerk’s Office)

Chief Dolan reported that there were 5 calls for the month of April and no false alarms. There will be a Chicken Bar-B-Que on June 21st from 4:00PM -6:30 PM (takeout only). The cost is $10.00 per person. As of right now there is no schedule of events for the fire house floor work. There are currently 10 trained interior firefighters in the fire company. The Board had some discussion with the chief regarding the new Cancer bill legislation with NY State. More details to follow.

Trustee Eleby stated that new lights have been ordered for the fire house at a cost of $6,665.54 with a National Grid savings incentive of $3,303.34. This will cover the lighting upgrade for the fire house. We received a lower percentage based on the amount of time the lights are on at the fire house. Three quotes will be needed from contractors to do the work.

**Parks**- Mayor Argyle noted that on May 20th at 2:00 pm, there will be a memorial plaque dedication for past Judge Archie Williams at the MHG Square across form the MHG Building. All are welcome.

**VERA**- The Village Wide Tag Sale will be July 21st. Another map will be drawn up for this event. There will also be a Fire Company Boot Drive on that day. The VERA Box is now full of flowers thanks to Sue Coelho. The flower box needs to be replaced though and bees need to be taken care of. They are looking for a quote from Kurt Barensfeld, a woodworker from Chatham who said he could build boxes out of special wood that does not rot.

**Hudson River Greenway**-

The driveway by the Dedrick property will be used as a temporary easement while the trail is being established. Penn Stueurwald actually owns the driveway and he is giving the Village the easement access until the HR Trail Group can purchase the Dedrick property. The thought is to tear down the house and barns and put up signs promoting area businesses and historical areas in Valatie. It was discussed to ask the School art departments to possibly design a sign for the entrance to the path. It was also discussed to put a notice in the newsletter asking for community input on a design as well.

**Resolution #** **120** was made by Trustee Eleby to approve the easement for the Hudson River Rail Trail pathway. Trustee Bevens seconded, all in favor, carried.

**May 12th** at 8:00 AM has once again been set aside to again try to have a community cleanup for the Village. The Girl Scouts are slated to help out. If it rains, it will be cancelled.

Mayor Argyle stated she received an email from Carl Quinn, one of the directors from Pathways to Recovery, that they will be having an outreach center at the Valatie Medical Arts Building.

The Board received the Tru Green Contract to due 2 sprays for the weed control for the Village.

**Resolution #121** was made by Trustee Bevens to sign the contract with Tru Green to do two weed control sprays for the Village. Trustee Williams seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Other Business**- Mayor Argyle presented a building rate increase list for permits from the Building Inspector for the Board’s review. The Board decided that if the department is self- sustaining they should keep the rates the same.

Chief Dolan asked who he should contact if Vince is not available? He was informed to contact the Town Building Inspector.

**Water/Sewer**- monthly report on file

**Highway Dept**.- We are still waiting on the signs for Holly Hills to be put up. We are waiting on prices also for signs at Callan Park.

**Community Day**- There will be another movie night for Community Day this year and the committee will meet next week. They are looking at the 2nd Friday in August as the date for the movie night.

**Clerk Update**- Residents are encouraged to sign up for Trash Day pickup on May 19th. Greg Seaman from AARP sent a letter thanking us for the use of the back room to do tax preparation for anyone needing to get their taxes done. Shredding will take place again sometime around June 11th here at the MHG building. The end of the year meeting will be held on Thursday, May 24th at 6:00 pm.

**Senior Center**- the slab for the bench will be delivered on Friday, May 11th.

**Building Department**- no report

**Applications for MHG building**-

**1.** Kinderhook Republican Committee

**Resolution #122** was made by Trustee Bevens to approve the application. Trustee Eleby seconded. All in favor, carried.

**Resolution #123** was made by Trustee Bevens to enter in to executive session at 8:15 pm to discuss the Cantele property tax bill. Trustee Eleby seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Resolution #124** was made by Trustee Eleby to exit executive session at 8:50 pm. Trustee Bevens seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Resolution #125** was made by Trustee Nero to reduce the tax penalties for Mr. Cantele to the amount owed of $29,860.74. Trustee Bevens seconded the motion, all in favor, carried.

The Board also discussed any water/sewer relief for Ralph Pesce. It was decided that since the Board has already given Mr. Pesce breaks on his water bills, he will not be given another break. He can make payments on the bill but penalties will continue to accrue or the amount will be re-levied to his taxes. If he does not make the payments of at least $1,000 a month, his water can be shut off.

**Resolution #126** was made by Trustee Eleby to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 pm. Trustee Bevens seconded, all in favor, carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Fischer, RMC

Village Clerk