Village of Valatie

Board of Trustees

May 12, 2015

FINAL

Present Audience

Mayor Diane Argyle 2 residents

Trustee Frank Bevens Columbia Paper reporter

Trustee Philip Bickerton

Trustee David Williams

Trustee Angelo Nero

Robert Fitzsimmons, Esq.

Mayor Argyle opened the meeting at 7:00 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Argyle stated that there is $16,000 more in the 2015-2016 year budget with each Board member deciding to take a cut in pay. The Tax Cap was reached and the water and sewer budget has remained the same.

Resolution # 152 was made by Trustee Bickerton to approve the 2015-2016 budget. Trustee Nero seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Resolution #153 was made by Trustee Bevens to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2015 and April 16, 2015 minutes. Trustee Bickerton seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Resolution #154 was made by Trustee Bickerton to pay claims 2015.12.-517-563 for a total amount of $22,886.81. Trustee Williams seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

**Fire Department**- no report

**Theatre Update**-

Robert Golderman is doing some masonry work on the Theatre and is doing a nice job. A concert that was recently held there went very well. They are looking to replace a door behind the stage.

**Parks**-

The Mayor opened the sole bid for Landscaping, clearing of brush, watering flowers on Main Street, etc. around the Village from Nathaniel Becker for a total of $11,600.00 per year. (Bid is on file in the Clerk’s office)

Resolution # 155 was made by Trustee Bevens to award Nathaniel Becker the Landscaping Bid for $11,600.00 for the year. Trustee Bickerton seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

A $100.00 donation was received from Village Historian Dominic Lizzi to purchase flowers for Memorial Day to place around the monument in Glynn Square.

There will be 3 new flag poles placed around the monument by members of the American Legion Post and the old footings will be taken out.

New mulch will be placed around the playground area at Callan Park. Trustee Bevens has contacted the Columbia County Sheriff’s Office to see if a couple of in-mates could help with all of the work. Trustee Bickerton and the Mayor will begin working at 8:00 am on May 29th as well as anyone else who would be able to help.

Application for the summer program through the Town of Kinderhook may be picked up in June at the Town Clerk’s Office. If it rains, the program will be moved into the gym at the Martin H. Glynn building.

**Memorial Day**-

Services will be held at the Glynn Square at 9:00 am with a Town of Kinderhook parade and service starting at 11:00 am. There will be hot dogs in the Kinderhook Square after the parade.

Trash Day pickup will be held on May 16th. All residents should sign up at the Village Hall to participate.

Resolution #156 was made by Trustee Bickerton to increase the cost of garbage stickers by $.50 starting June 1, 2015. Trustee Williams seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried. Small garbage stickers will increase from $1.50 each to $2.00 each with large stickers increasing from $2.50 to $3.00 each. The 3 month trash bin sticker will increase from $60.00 to $70.00.

**Insurance**-

Resolution #157 was made by Trustee Bevens to keep the same insurance company, The Kleeber Agency, since insurance does not need to be bid out. Trustee Nero seconded the motion all in favor, motion carried.

**Streets/Parking**-

There has been a complaint from a resident in Little Falls. It appears there may be a business at a residence without a permit. This has been referred to the building/code enforcement officer Walt Simonsmeier.

Drainage will be replaced in the areas of High Street and Lake Street in July. The roads will be closed for approximately 4 days. A letter will be given to residents in that area.

Resolution # 158 was made by Trustee Nero to have Fine Lines Pavement Marking company paint the lines on the streets for a cost of $700.00. Trustee Bickerton seconded the motion, alI in favor, motion carried.

The Board discussed getting signs for along the streets where a crosswalk is indicated.

The Board received a proposal from a site development company called UNISON regarding the water tank. The Board reviewed the information.

**Water/Sewer**-

The monthly Water/Wastewater Department report is on file in the Clerk’s Office.

Resolution # 159 was made by Trustee Nero to send out any shut off letters for water/sewer if needed. Trustee Williams second the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Resolution #160 was made by Trustee Bickerton to add water/sewer re-levies to property tax bills presented before the Board by the Village Clerk. Trustee Bevens seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Due to the problems with the current water/sewer program, rate increases were lost. Records will be updated once they are transferred into the new water/sewer program. The Board is still working on a moratorium for water.

The Annual Drinking Water Quality Report is now available and will be on the Village website with copies also located at the Village Clerk’s Office.

**Sewer**-

The dry sludge removal cost has increased and the electricity expense for the new plant is very expensive. We will be going back to wet sludge. The Diamond Street lift broke down last month and the wastewater department is rebuilding the pump. We are also waiting for the new screen for the sewer plant.

The Board welcomed two new businesses to Main Street, The Attic & The Lodge. Randall Schmitt will look into having a ribbon cutting with the Mayor and the Board for the two new businesses on Main Street.

**V.E.R.A.-**

Randall Schmitt announced that VERA will be re-organizing starting with new officers in July. They intend on forming a Social Media Officer and there will be a formal get-together on June 16, 2015 at 2:00 PM at the Valatie Bar & Grill to meet the new officers. They are working on getting more volunteers.

July 18th is the date set for the Village Wide Tag Sale. They are looking into advertising the Farmer’s Market on Facebook.

VERA is also researching smaller trees for Main Street.

**CLERK Updates**-

There will be a Village Resident only Electronics Re-cycling day on June 27th from 8:00am-12:00noon in front of the Martin H. Glynn Building. There will be 2 - 20 yard dumpsters set up in front of the building and residents must sign up at the clerk’s office before they drop off their items. A list of acceptable items will be on the website and at the Clerk’s Office. This Recycling Day will not cost the Village to get rid of items. This program is free and put on by Columbia County Solid Waste.

Resolution #161 was made by Trustee Bevens to allow the Village to charge the fee amount of a certified letter on to residents who receive a letter from the building inspector and/or the Clerk’s Office. Trustee Bickerton seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Resolution # 162 was made by Trustee Bevens to raise the cost of the Peddler’s permit fee to $100.00 which will include any helpers. Trustee Bickerton seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Resolution #163 was made by Trustee Bevens to charge a second notice fee of $2.00 to Tax bills that have not been paid by September. Trustee Williams seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Resolution #164 was made by Trustee Bevens to charge a fee of $25.00 for any bounced checks received. Trustee Williams seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

**Senior Center**-

Trustee Williams will purchase a new television for the Senior Center and have it set up. Also, the lock on the propane box is not working and he will check into that.

Resolution #165 was made by Trustee Bevens to allow Lenore Brough to use the Senior Center for a 90th birthday party for her mother on Saturday, August 22, 2015 at no charge.Trustee Bickerton seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

**Correspondence**-

A letter was received from Greg Seaman thanking the Board for the use of the Board meeting room to allow the AARP- Tax Aid volunteers to prepare taxes for residents in Valatie and surrounding areas.

**Parking Lot**-

The Board was asked about possibly selling the Main Street parking lot next to the Lodge to the Tierra Farms owners. Under advice from attorney Fitzsimmons, since a 5 year lease has just been signed, the Village would need to put the parking lot out to bid all over again and have another Public Hearing. The Village is committed now with the lease.

**New Business**-

Applications for MHG Building-

Resolution # 166 was made by Trustee Bevens to allow the Valatie Seniors to use the gym for ZUMBA Gold on Fridays from 10:45am- 12:15pm. Trustee Nero seconded the motion, al in favor, motion carried.

Resolution # 167 was made by Trustee Bevens to allow the Northern Columbia Chaos softball team to use the gym on Sundays from 1:00pm-4:00 pm from October 1, 2015- December 21, 2015. Trustee Williams seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Resolution #168 was made by Trustee Bickerton to allow Girl Scout Troop #126 to meet for Troop meetings in the building(insurance provided). Trustee Bevens seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Resolution #169 was made by Trustee Bevens to allow Girl Scout Troop # 1100 to meet for Troop meetings in the building( insurance provided). Trustee Williams seconded the motion al in favor, motion carried.

Resolution #170 was made by Trustee Nero to allow Girl Scout Troop # 1037 to meet for Troop meetings in the building insurance provided). Trustee Williams seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

**Public Comment**-

Randall Schmitt commented that he needed a copy of the second resolution from the Ichabod Crane School Board so a return letter may be written to the School Board.

A sign at the Pachaquack Park has been broken off of its’ post. The Town Highway department will try to secure the sign to a rock and it will be placed back in the park.

Audience member Carol Williams asked the Board to remind people that there is No Open Burning allowed until the middle of May. Reports of illegal burning should go to the Sheriff’s Office.

Emelia Teasdale inquired about a crosswalk sign by St. John’s church. Trustee Bevens will look into it.

Resolution #171 was made by Trustee Bevens to enter into executive session at 8:43 pm. Trustee Williams seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Resolution #172 was made by Trustee Bevens to exit out of executive session at 9:10pm. Trustee Bickerton seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Resolution #173 was made by Trustee Bickerton to approve a HUD Loan at 4% Trustee Bevens seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Resolution #174 was made by Trustee Bickerton to research the possibility of borrowing up to $100,000 to pay off certain outstanding bills owed such as the sidewalk link project. Trustee Bevens seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried. A Special meeting may be held to proceed with this if needed.

Resolution # 175 was made by Trustee Bickerton to adjourn the meeting at 9:17pm. Trustee Bevens seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Fischer

Village Clerk