**VILLAGE OF VALATIE**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

**November 13, 2018**

**6:30 P.M.**

**PRESENT**  **AUDIENCE**

Mayor Diane Argyle Andy Beers, Chris Cornwell- GPI

Trustee Frank Bevens Mike Vischowski- Traffic Engineer

Trustee Larry Eleby 51 Residents

Trustee Angelo Nero Fire Chief Rustin Dolan

Trustee David Williams Randall Schmitt

Robert Fitzsimmons, Esq. Columbia Paper reporter

 Register Star reporter

Mayor Argyle called the meeting at 6:30pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Andy Beers from the Albany Hudson Rail Trail gave a power point presentation to the Board and the audience regarding the new trail that will be put in near the Route 9 and Main Street intersection. He was accompanied by a gentleman from GPI and an engineer. Construction will start in the spring and bids for construction will go out in December. Many members of the audience expressed their concerns such as putting in a traffic light at this intersection and some safety concerns regarding the crosswalk. Mr. Beers explained that there is no data stating that this is a particularly safe or unsafe intersection. He displayed a power point presentation of vehicles moving in the traffic pattern. Cameras were apparently installed at some time to view the traffic pattern. More striping will be added to the road.

Some questions and comments brought before the Board were as follows:

1. Has Albany Avenue traffic been considered in regard to the intersection?

2. There are no school bus traffic patterns depicted.

3. Has a traffic light been considered?

4. Has anyone considered the height of the road or the site distance?

5. Can a flashing red light be placed at the crosswalk as well as flashing yellow lights?

6. Has the speed of traffic been considered in the study?

7. Have the businesses on Main Street been canvased at all for their opinion?

8. The school is now on a one bell system. Has this been taken into consideration regarding traffic back up?

9. Has building a bridge over the street or a tunnel under the road been considered?

10. What about the turning radius of fire trucks?

11. Would the speed limit be reduced in this area?

Some positive comments by some area residents were that they feel it will enhance the area and where other trails are located, the businesses are thriving.

This first demonstration ended at 8:00 pm

The next presentation was for the Ichabod Crane School District regarding a 27.1 million BOND to make improvements for the Capital Facilities. The entire campus is subject to improvements.

School Board President Matthew Nelson and member John Antelek presented a display and picture boards presenting the total project for the School campus which will cost a total of $27.1 million dollars. There will be a one- time tax increase to residents and there will be payments for the life of the BOND for 15 years. There will be a district vote held on December 12th form 8:00 am- 9:00 pm.

This presentation ended at 8:30 pm.

Next on the agenda for presentations was Mr. Paul Calcagno who would like to develop a portion of land next to the Ocean State Job Lots complex. He would like to build 3, 3-4 story pet friendly rental apartment buildings on this property and he again presented plans to the Board for their consideration and the thoughts of area residents. Mr. Calcagno stated that he does not need Village water and the access would be on Route 9, not Albany Avenue. There would only be an Emergency access road off of Albany Avenue. The property is zoned B1- multi- family in the Town of Kinderhook and could possibly be annexed into the Village.

Attorney Fitzsimmons suggested that Mr. Calcagno make an application to the Valatie Planning Board for an interpretation for 105 units on 15 acres which would be 35 units per 3 buildings.

Mr. Calcagno stated that he will put together a site plan to present to the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Next on the presentation agenda was Philip Bickerton, representing the Town of Kinderhook Board’s Climate Smart Committee regarding charging stations in the Village. Mr. Bickerton stated that they received a $15,000 grant for a charging station that would be in front of the Martin H. Glynn Municipal Building. The Town will add 4 more parking spaces in front of the building and they will pay to have ballards placed in front of the charging station so that it will not be run over by vehicles. Mr. Bickerton will also be in touch with Trustee Eleby regarding placing a charging station at the Senior Center parking lot.

The regular meeting of the Valatie Village Board of Trustees convened at 9:30 pm after a short break.

**Resolution #48** was made by Trustee Bevens to approve the minutes of October 9, 2018. Trustee Bevens seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Resolution #49** was made by Trustee Bevens to approve claims 2018-6-#230-285 for a total of $69,180.93 for all bills with $13,403.07 for off abstract bills. Total of all bills paid is $82,584.00. Trustee Nero seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Public Comment**- Emelia Teasdale inquired as to when leaf pickup will end? She was informed November 26th.

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**Fire Department**- (on file in clerk’s office) – The kitchen has not been completed yet. There were 7 calls for the month of October with no false/nuisance alarms. Truck 55-20 has had it’s annual inspection and service. There were some minor issues with the ladder truck and they are working with KME to resolve them. Halloween was a great success again this year and the members thank everyone who came out to support the Chicken BBQ dinner. A reminder to all residents that winter snow is coming. Please shovel out your fire hydrants in case of a fire. Some of the LED lights have been installed in the truck bay and they are waiting on the rest.

**Theatre**- Craig Hancock and Tom Barber presented a report to the Board which is on file in the Clerk’s Office. And are attached to the minutes. They asked the Board of Trustees if the Village could support the Theater more financially? It was brought up about possibly selling the building but it would need to be sold at market value of $220,000. There is a problem of gifting the building as well because you would be giving away tax payer money. The Mayor suggested possibly having the Village sponsor a couple of events at the Theater.

An electrical survey has been done on the Theater and a list was given to the Board. (On file in the Clerk’s Office). It was suggested to place a referendum on the election ballot but it cannot be placed on the ballot without statutory authority. Mayor Argyle suggested that the Theater Board come up with a list of items they would need to raise money for and then a Special Meeting could be held with input from residents.

**Parks**- Tim Van Wagner will replace the fence at River Street Park at the cost of the fencing.

**Resolution # 50** was made by Trustee Bevens to purchase a 2 rail fence for the River Street Park and have Tim Van Wagner install it. Trustee Eleby seconded, all in favor, carried.

The Board is still waiting to hear from the Engineer Ray Jurkowski on the pavilion and the parks on Main Street as well as the sidewalks in the Village. The Board will need to check with a DOT Representative who maintains the sidewalk on Route 9. The drainage in the roadway is State DOT’s problem not the Village.

**Water/Sewer**- (Report on file in Clerk’s Office) – Quotes were received for doors and they are ok. There will be a meeting with Jeff Smith Trustee Williams and the Mayor regarding the electric from the Pump House to the Sewer Plant.

**Other business**- The Health Insurance Carrier, CDPHP has increased by 1.5%. The Water Departments Union UPSEU is ok with the increase of approximately $30.00 per month.

**Resolution #51** was made by Trustee Bevens to renew the contract with CDPHP for Village Employee Health Insurance at $30.00 more per month. Trustee Williams seconded, all in favor, carried.

Mayor Argyle noted that letters have been sent to Karen Webb and Charles Ballard regarding the issues that are on- going with them. No response has been received so far other than they are working on their issues.

Trustee Bevens suggested that the Village purchase portable cameras with motion sensors called “Deer Cams” to be placed in various locations in the Village to watch for people “jacking” deer. The Board tabled this until the executive session.

**VERA**- Randall Schmitt reported that Small Business Saturday is November 24th. There will be a Proclamation and banners and balloons. He also presented the budget for Winter Walk.

**Resolution #52** was made by Trustee Bevens to approve the Winter Walk budget. Trustee Eleby seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Clerk Update**- The Clerk will be attending two “webinars” for the upcoming Village Election on March 19, 2019. A notice has been sent to the papers stating the offices to be filled. A new “Notice of Delinquent Water/Sewer Bill” was presented to the Board for review. Shredding will begin again from December 3-13th. The Village office will close early on November 21st for Thanksgiving and the Clerk “Thanked” everyone who donated once again to “Operation Adopt A Soldier” for the troops overseas. Five boxes of food and other items were collected as well as $110 for postage.

**Senior Center**- no report

**Highway Dept.-**Mayor spoke to John Ruchel and Paul Warner and Ed Czyzewski regarding paving and water mains for High Street, Luther Street and Lake Street. Leaf pickup will continue until November 26th.

**Building Dept**.- no report

**Water Sewer forgiveness**-Trustee Bevens is still concerned that shutoff letters need to be sent out. Letters will be sent out after this meeting.

**Applications for MHG building**-

1.Columbia CountyDistrict Attorney’s Office for use of a third floor room for interrogation purposes

2. Boy Scout Troop 113 for troop meetings

3. Eastern NY Blackhawks

**Resolution #53** was made by Trustee Nero to approve all applications. Trustee Bevens seconded, all in favor, carried.

**More business**- The Garden Club has asked to use the Senior Center on January 8th at 1:00 pm for a meeting and a Phillipino Community Group has asked to use the Senior Center to have a Christmas Party on December 15th for approximately 50 people.

**Resolution # 54** was made by Trustee Eleby to allow the two groups to use the Senior Center. Trustee Williams seconded, all in favor, carried.

A Town resident, Bryan Lynch, who uses Village water, had some concerns about his water bill penalties that he had paid earlier in the year. The Board discussed with Mr. Lynch that he had allowed his bill to go unpaid without contacting the Village Office to let them know that he was the new owner for over a year. No bills had been returned to the Village office and he made no attempt to contact the Village. A final read had been done and his attorney and the previous owner should have instructed him that he would need to pay a quarterly water bill.

**Resolution #55** was made by Trustee Bevens to enter in to executive session at 10:23pm for matters before the Board. Trustee Eleby seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Resolution #56** was made by Trustee Bevens to exit executive session at 10:37 pm, seconded by Trustee Eleby at 10:37 pm, all in favor, carried.

**Resolution # 57** was made by Trustee Bevens to purchase the “Deer Cams” to keep an eye out for deer jacking. Trustee Williams seconded, all in favor, carried.

With no further business to discuss,

**Resolution #58** was made by Trustee Bevens to adjourn the meeting at 10:38pm. Trustee Eleby seconded, all in favor, carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Fischer, RMC

Village Clerk