VILLAGE OF VALATIE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

November 14, 2017

7:00 P.M.

**PRESENT**  **AUDIENCE**

Mayor Diane Argyle Ann Schaefer, Ted & Deb Phelps

Trustee Frank Bevens 1st Asst. Chief Joe Loeffler

Trustee Larry Eleby- absent- notified 2nd Asst. Chief Sam Becker

Trustee Angelo Nero Carol Williams, Charles Ballard

Trustee David Williams Randall Schmit- VERA

Robert Fitzsimmons, Esq. Columbia Paper Reporter

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

Mayor Argyle opened the Public Hearing at 7:01 pm “Adopting the Franchise Agreement between the Village of Valatie and Time Warner Cable Northeast LLC, Locally known as Charter Communications”.

There were no public comments, therefore Mayor Argyle closed the Public Hearing at 7:02 pm. Attorney Fitzsimmons explained that this agreement does not regulate the internet, only television.

**Resolution #52** was made by Trustee Bevens to adopt the Franchise Agreement between the Village of Valatie and Time Warner Cable Northeast LLC, locally known as Charter Communications. Trustee Nero seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Resolution #53** was made by Trustee Bevens to approve the minutes of October 10, 2017, seconded by Trustee Nero, all in favor, carried.

**Resolution #54** was made by Trustee Nero to approve claims 2017-6-228-289 for a total of $57, 165.76 and $16,632.52 for off abstract bills for a total of $73,798.28 of all bills. Trustee Williams seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Public Comment**-New resident Ann Schaefer appeared before the Board asking for a variance to by- pass the section of the law allowing her to have a home based business in a barn behind her residence and to have a water/sewer hookup returned to the building that had been there once before. Ms. Schaefer had been in contact with the Village Wastewater Superintendent Paul Warner and Chuck Rothermel several times as well as with the Village Building Inspector Vincent Concra. Trustee Williams asked whether this would set a precedent but was informed by Attorney Fitzsimmons that this is unique to her situation and the Village can deal with situations such as this on a case by case basis. Mayor Argyle only requested that Ms. Schaefer proceed with the guidance of the Village water department and that no apartment be allowed in the barn if the property is ever sold in the future. There were no other concerns from the Board. Attorney Fitzsimmons stated that the water and sewer needs to be an accessory to the house. A file will be kept in the Clerk’s office/Building Department with the approved Village Board minutes and any letters from Ms. Schaefer.

**Resolution # 55** was made by Trustee Bevens to approve the Variance for Ms. Ann Schaefer as long as she complies with the Village requirements through the Village Water/Sewer Department and Chuck Rothermel. Trustee Nero seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Fire Dept**.- (Second Assistant Chief Sam Becker presented the report which is on file in the Clerk’s Office)

There were 6 calls for the month of October. An annual OSHA refresher course with hazmat and blood borne pathogens training was completed at the beginning of the month. Having the fire trucks throughout the Village on Halloween went over very well. The children loved seeing the trucks pull up to deliver candy. There is talk about doing the same thing next year. The fire department “Thanked” everyone who supported the chicken BBQ.

Attorney Fitzsimmons read the Bond Resolution for a Notice of Adoption Subject to Permissive Referendum which will need to be displayed throughout the Village and noticed in the local paper. The Village will need to wait 30 days to see if there are any challenges from residents. If 20 percent of the voters of the Village challenge, then it forces a referendum. If no one challenges, an Estoppel Notice will need to be published once in the local newspaper within the Village. The Village may have to wait up to 20 days after publication for the BOND to be issued. Insurance for the old truck will be removed.

**Resolution #56** was made by Trustee Williams to approve the advertising for a Notice of Adoption Subject to Referendum to be noticed in the local paper and posted in 6 places throughout the Village for 30 days. If there are no challenges from 20 percent of the voters of the Village, an Estoppel Notice will be published in the paper. Trustee Nero seconded, all in favor, carried.

**V.E.R.A.-** Randal Schmit reported that Shop Small Saturday will be held on November 25th at 10:30 am. The Chamber of Commerce will have a table in front of Joan Gavigans’ shop. Winter walk is going well. He is trying to get the High School Band to participate and the Grand Marshall will be Guy Gamello. He presented a budget to the Village Board for Winter Walk. Mayor Argyle and the Board “Thanked” Randall for all the hard work he and his committee have done.

**Resolution # 57** was made by Trustee Nero to approve the budget for Winter Walk for a total of $3,625.00. Trustee Bevens seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Theater**- no report

**Parks**- A proposal needs to be written to put the Pavilion out to bid. Nathan Becker sent a contract for mowing and trimming and the Board may see if he would be willing to do the mowing for the entire Village instead of the Town doing it for the Village.

Don Mackey will not be putting up the Christmas lights for the Village because he does not have a bucket truck any more. Dave Williams will contact Scheriff Electric to see if they would be willing to do it or the Board will contact someone else.

**Solar Report**- Trustee Eleby sent a report on his meeting with Robyn Reynolds from NYSERDA to develop Village clean energy status. Resolutions for a Climate Smart Community and Benchmarking have already been presented and passed by the Village Board. A unified solar permit, charging stations, more LED lighting for the Community and energy plan enforcement training will need to be addressed as well for future approvals and adoptions.

It was also discussed as to where a charging station could be placed and it was decided that a charging station could be placed in the Senior Center/Municipal parking lot and have dedicated parking spaces for the Senior Center only, all others will be towed. The Board will look into getting a grant to set up everything and to pass a local law for when and where Senior Citizens can park at the Senior Center. Trustee Nero asked that the Resident Deputy issue tickets for all night parking.

**Water/Sewer Dept**.- Well #4 is still being looked at. Discussion included getting someone else trained for the sewer plant as a backup.

**Clerk’s Office**- The clerk “Thanked” everyone who provided donations to Operation Adopt a Soldier. A lot of items were donated and a total of $150.00 was collected to use for postage to send packages to the troops overseas. Shredding will take place outside the office from December 4-14th. There will be a student intern from Ichabod Crane coming in to the office 2 days a week until the end of the school year for a student work program through the school. This is a free program.

**Senior Center**- The Ichabod Crane Alumni Group has requested the use of the Senior Center for a meeting to be held on Wednesday, November 22nd. All Board members present granted the request.

**Highway Dept**.- The Island on Church Street near Barnwell has been completely removed and the drain on Upper Main Street has been done.

**Building Dept.-** Mr. Charles Ballard attended the meeting but did not bring an engineer’s report. He did have a contractors quote. The Board requested that Mr. Ballard provide an engineers’ report within one week and a report from the contractor who he stated said that the building was safe. Discussion ensued regarding fines for non-compliance and having a fee schedule similar to the Town of Claverack. Attorney Fitzsimmons stated that the Building Inspector could issue an Order of Remedy Violation then Mr. Ballard would receive an “invitation” to attend court if this issue is not taken care of.

There was discussion regarding people placing household garbage in municipal garbage cans on Main Street. It was discussed to have signs placed on the cans stating “Warning- Litter Only!- $250.00 fine for household/business property garbage placed in receptacle” or something to that affect.

**Water/Sewer forgiveness**- The Board discussed a water bill for property owned by Darren Grout which had a water heater leak. The Board decided to forgive the bill for a total of $3453.11 for water and sewer. No future request for this property will be granted.

The Board had also discussed forgiveness to property owned by Penn Steuerwald. The Board had previously given relief to this account at an earlier date and decided against doing it again.

**Applications for MHG/ Callan Park**-

1. St. John’s CYO

2. Boy Scout Troop 114

3. Northern Columbia Chaos

4. Kinderhook Cub Scout Pack 2113

**Resolution #58** was made by Trustee Bevens to approve the applications for use of the MHG building. Trustee Williams seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Resolution #59** was made by Trustee Bevens to enter into executive session at 8.23 pm to discuss employee insurance before the Board. Trustee Nero seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Resolution #60** was made by Trustee Nero to exit executive session at 8:49 pm. Trustee Williams seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Resolution # 61** was made by Trustee Bevens to switch the employee Health Insurance to CDPHP with the consent of the Employee Union request. Trustee Williams seconded, all in favor, carried.

With no further business to discuss,

**Resolution #62** was made by Trustee Bevens to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 pm. Trustee Nero seconded, all in favor, carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A Fischer, RMC

Village Clerk/Treasurer