Village of Valatie

Board of Trustees

June 9, 2015

Present Audience

Mayor Diane Argyle 1 reporter

Trustee Frank Bevens 4 residents

Trustee Angelo Nero Officer Louis Bray

Trustee Philip Bickerton Assistant Chief Rustin Dolan

Trustee David Williams

Robert Fitzsimmons, Esq.

Mayor Argyle opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 pm. There were no public comments.

Resolution # 1 was made by Trustee Bevens to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2015 meeting. Trustee Williams seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Resolution # 2 was made by Trustee Bevens to approve the minutes of the May 27, 2015 end of the year meeting. Trustee Williams seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Resolution # 3 was made by Trustee Bickerton to approve claims # 2015-01-36 for a total of $72,190.61. Trustee Bevens seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

**Fire Department**-

Assistant Chief Rustin Dolan presented the fire department report. (on file in the clerk’s office).

In April 2015 there were 3 calls, 2 drills and 1 detail for a total of 96.033 active hours with an average per member hour of 4.365. During the month of May there were 10 calls, 2 drills and 2 details with 141.900 active hours with an average of 6.450 hours per member.

**Theater**-

No report

**Parks**-

Mayor Argyle “Thanked” Trustee Bickerton for all of his help working on replacing the mulch around the playground at Callan Park. She also thanked her husband and Sheriff David Bartlett for allowing 2 inmates to work on the project as well. Trustee Bickerton “Thanked” Jacob Mooney for his assistance as well. The next project will be to work on the roof of the pavillian and to replace the rotted posts.

**Other Business**-

Trustee Bevens stated that the Kinderhook Fire Chief, Larry Eislen, has asked to use the River Street Park for a Wildland Search and Rescue Course in July for the Valatie and Kinderhook Fire Companies.

Resolution # 4 was made by Trustee Bevens to allow the Kinderhook Fire Department to use the River Street Park for a Wildland Search and Rescue Course in July. Trustee Bickerton seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

A letter was received from Robin Fix asking to reserve Callan Park for a function (wedding).

Resolution # 5 was made by Trustee Bickerton to allow Robin Fix to use Callan Park on July 18th from 12-3:00 pm for a wedding. Trustee Nero seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

**Water/Sewer**-

The water/sewer monthly report is on file in the Clerk’s Office. The Board is looking into putting well number 3 back on line.

A request (letter)was received from Tim Holk asking for relief of water/ sewer charges since he does not receive water or sewer to his property. The Board discussed the matter at length and decided to give Mr. Holk some relief on the charges.

Resolution # 6 was made by Trustee Bevens to give relief of penalty charges of two water/sewer bills for Mr. Tim Holk for a total relief of $6100.00. Trustee Williams seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Holk continued to discuss new ideas of creating an agricultural community he had for his property and asked the Board for their opinion. The Board stated that he would need to go before the Zoning Board and have a Public Hearing on his plans. Mayor Argyle stated that there is an issue of water capacity to expand out to Mr. Holk’s property. Mr. Holk stated that this was really about creating a tax base for the Village.

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

A recruitment of new people will be held on Saturday, June 13th at the Valatie Bar & Grill between the hours of 2-4 pm.

The Village Wide Recycling Day will be held on June 27th from 8:00 am-noon. Trustees Bevens and Williams and the Village Clerk will be available to help unload items in to the dumpsters.

Mr. Phil Praga contacted the Mayor regarding the wall next to his home which is owned by the Village. Dirt is falling down into his yard during rain storms and “sugar bushes” need to be removed and replaced with something low growing so the dirt will take hold of it and not allow it to drain into his yard. Trustee Bickerton offered to take a look at the wall and shrubs.

**Farmer’s Market**-

Mayor Argyle asked if a port-o-let could be rented monthly for the farmer’s market so she would not have to attend every market day to allow people to use the bathrooms in the Village Hall. The cost is $100.00 a month rental fee.

Resolution # 7 was made by Trustee Bevens to order the port-o let for use at the Farmer’s Market at a cost of $100.00 a month. Trustee Bickerton seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

The Board discussed the signs that people place at the Route 9 triangle without permission. Rob Fitzsimmons will look into whether this is actually Village owned property but in the mean-time, the signs can be removed if permission was not given to place one there.

**Clerk**-

The new water and sewer program and the tax program have been installed. The Tax program is up and running very well but more time is needed to enter all of the information into the water and sewer program.

**Senior Center**-

There will be an Energy Program held at the Senior Center on June 11th by Theresa Mayhew of Columbia Cooperative Extension for anyone who would like to learn how to save on their energy costs at home.

**Other Business**-

There will be a chicken Bar-b-que at the Valatie Fire house on Thursday, June 11 from 4:00-6:30 pm.

The Mayor reminded everyone that the potholes will be filled on Main Street and then new parking lines will be painted on the roads and parking lots.

Randall Schmitt commented that the crosswalks in Stockbridge, MA are painted green and seem to be more visible for people to see. He wondered if maybe this would help people in the Village to see that there is actually a crosswalk that they need to stop their cars for pedestrians. Trustee Bevens commented that it may be a State regulation that it is that color but he will check it out.

**New Business**-

Applications for MHG-

Resolution # 8 was made by Trustee Bickerton to allow the Northern Columbia Little League to hold meetings, registration and store equipment at the MHG Building. Trustee Bevens seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Resolution # 9 was made by Trustee Bevens to allow Boy Scout Troop 113 of Kinderhook the use of the MHG building for storage of items for a yard sale they will hold in the fall. Trustee Williams seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

**Public Comment**-

Louise Roback, who participates in the Farmer’s Market on Sunday’s, commented that she would like to open a bakery in the Village but she is concerned about the cameras that are on Main Street. She believes it is a violation of people’s privacy and was concerned who would be looking at the videos. The Board and Officer Louise Bray confirmed that the videos are only used in case of a crime and he, Mr. Bray, would be the only one who would be viewing them. Trustee Williams commented that the majority of residents welcomed the cameras after the Legion Hall was damaged by vandals.

Emelia Teasdale commented that a peddler has been going door to door in the evening. She wondered if there is a time frame during the day that peddlers are allowed to go after dark. Rob will check on a time frame if there is one. The Clerk commented that she will not allow anyone to go door to door without getting all of their information on their product and all of their personal information. They are also to wear identification.

Emelia also asked about the drain flooding in front of her house and who she should contact? She was given the number of State DOT since that is a State road.

Resolution # 10 was made by Trustee Bickerton to enter into executive session at 8:07 pm to discuss some issues before the Board. Trustee Bevens seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Resolution # 11 was made by Trustee Nero to exit from executive session at 8:23pm. Trustee Bevens seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Resolution #12 was made by Trustee Nero to replace the side door off of the stage at the Theater at a cost of $1300. Trustee Bickerton seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

The Board discussed moving a storage shed behind the Senior Center with electric and ventilation.

Resolution # 13 was made by Trustee Bickerton to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 pm, seconded by Trustee Bevens, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Fischer

Village Clerk