VILLAGE OF VALATIE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

NOVEMBER 17, 2014

FINAL

MEMBERS PRESENT AUDIENCE

Mayor Diane Argyle 12 residents/visitors

Trustee Frank Bevens 2 Reporters

Trustee Philip Bickerton

Trustee Angelo Nero

Trustee David Williams

Mayor Argyle called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Argyle opened the Public Hearing for Local Law #3 of the Year 2014 for a local law amending Chapter 107 of the Code of the Village of Valatie entitled “Sewers”. Mayor Argyle questioned who would inspect the grease traps and was informed by Building Inspector Walt Simmonsmeier that according to the Village Code it states that the Superintendent of the Water Department does the inspection.

The Board tabled any more discussion for the Public Hearing for some suggestions from Paul Warner, the Wastewater/Water Superintendent.

A motion was made by Trustee Nero to table the Public Hearing until the December 9th meeting seconded by Trustee Bevens, motion carried.

Open Bids for Parking Lot

Trustee Bevens asked that the Board post pone the opening of the only bid received so that a public hearing may be held at the December 9, 2014 Board of Trustees meeting. Attorney Rob Fitzsimmons explained that an extension was given for anyone who wanted to place a bid for the parking lot because the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees fell on Veterans Day and the Board did not meet, therefore an extension was given.

There was much discussion between the Board and the audience regarding the bid opening.

Trustee Bevens made a motion to hold off opening of the bid until after a Public Hearing is held at the December 9, 2014 meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Nero. The Board voted to decide whether to conduct a Public Hearing before opening any bids. Those in favor of holding a Public Hearing before opening any bids included- Trustees Bevens, Trustee Nero, Trustee Bickerton- yes, Trustee Williams voted no, motion carried.

Gunther Fishgold, the sole bidder for the parking lot, was not in agreement with the Boards decision to post pone the bid opening and therefore withdrew his bid.

Audience member Gary Strevell suggested a possible deed restriction option be looked into. Mr. Fishgold still decided to withdraw his bid.

Public Comments

None

Mayor Argyle commented her displeasure with the negative newspaper reporting of the Register Star regarding the Spirit of Valatie Award.

Delaware Engineering

Dan Rourke reported that the bids were back on the Waste water treatment plant. The lowest bidder needed to withdraw their bid because the wrong amount was entered on the base bid line and $43,600 was omitted from the bid. The bid was withdrawn within the 24 hour time period. CO Falter was the next lowest bidder with a bid of $476,000. The project is on point for April 2015. Jesse Fraine read through a memo to the Board regarding the wells and the next step. The memo is on file in the clerk’s office. Mary Beth Bianconi stated that there is a good chance that the Village will just need the three wells. The State would need to sign off that the wells are not under the influence of surface water.

A motion was made by Trustee Bevens to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2014 minutes, seconded by Trustee Bickerton, all in favor, motion carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Bevens to approve the abstract of claims for a total of $47,985.32, seconded by Trustee Bickerton, all in favor, motion carried.

Presentations

Patrick Manning from Viridian (an energy supply corporation) gave a presentation regarding the long term future in regards to natural gas over the next 3 years. He asked for permission from the Board to get quotes from Solar City, which Viridian has a partnership, without there being any commitment to sign up with them.

Trustee Bevens made a motion to give permission to Mr. Manning to get quotes for the December 9th Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Williams, all in favor, motion carried.

Tim Carr from Monolith Solar also gave a presentation to the Board stating that his company is one of the top three solar sellers in the state. There would be no cost to the Village because the solar panels would be on land owned by Monolith Solar. Mr. Carr explained that the village would need to commit to a 20 year term and he explained Remote Net Metering. A packet explain Remote Net Metering is on file in the Clerk’s Office.

The Board will review both options before the next Board meeting and ask Morris Associates to review the contracts.

There was no Fire Department Report.

Trustee Bevens did speak about the condition of the fire house floor and stated that the fire company is now looking in to funding.

Trustee Bickerton made a motion to allow the fire company to fill out the loan application form from the New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control. Trustee Bevens seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Theater

There will be a Holiday Caberet on Sunday, December 7th at 2:00 pm. They are working on the coil for the heating unit. They are still awaiting a proposal for work on the inside walls and a quote for redoing some brick work. There will also be a teenage Rock and Roll show sometime between Christmas and New Years with the title of Valatie Community Theater Rock’s the Holidays!

Parks

Nathaniel Becker is finished with cleaning up the drainage at the Holly Hills Development with 80 hours of work. This will be worked on again next year to keep the weeds down.

V.E.R.A.

Saturday, November 29th is Small Business Saturday with a ceremony at 10:30 on Main Street.

Resolution # 69 was made by Trustee Bickerton to proclaim Saturday, November 29, 2014 as Small Business Saturday in the Village of Valatie. Trustee Bevens seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried. A formal Resolution is on file in the clerk’s office.

Winter walk will be held, Saturday, December 13th from 5- 9 pm with a parade and a visit from Santa. V.E.R.A. will be giving at least $700 towards Winter Walk.

A motion was made by Trustee Bevens and seconded by Trustee Bickerton to allow the Village to support Winter Walk with the same amount of money as last year. Trustee Bickerton seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Main Street

Mayor Argyle spoke to NYS DOT regarding restricting parking on the corner of Church and Main Street due to poor visibility. Trustee Bevens will look in to this further and report back at the December meeting. Rob Fitzsimmons stated that the Board may need to adopt a Local Law for 2 hour parking on an annual or semiannual basis.

The Board is looking for volunteers to investigate putting in new trees or possibly solar lights on Main Street. Randall Schmitt volunteered to help with this and will recruit others if he can.

Clerk

The Clerk Thanked the Board for allowing her to collect items for Operation Adopt a Veteran. $100 was raised as well as 3 boxes of items that will be shipped overseas for the troops for Christmas.

The use of credit cards to pay water/sewer bills and garbage stickers is doing very well with a lot of people making use of it on line.

Portrait Resolution

Resolution # 70 was made by Trustee Bickerton to ask the Ichabod Crane School District to allow the Village to keep the portrait of Martin H. Glynn on a permanent loan basis. Trustee Bevens seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried. A formal resolution is on file in the Clerk’s office.

Senior Center

A motion was made by Trustee Williams to allow the Santa Claus Club to meet at the Senior Center, seconded by Trustee Bevens, all in favor, motion carried.

The Santa Claus Club will be meeting at the Senior Center for the next 4 Wednesdays and the Rotary Club will meet at the Village Hall.

MHG

A motion was made by Trustee Bevens and seconded by Trustee Bickerton to allow the CYO Basketball club to use the Gym. All in favor, motion carried. Application is on file in the clerk’s office.

A motion was made by Trustee Bickerton to allow the Rotary Club to use the MHG building for their meetings for the next 4 Wednesdays, seconded by Trustee Bevens, all in favor, motion carried.

Other Business

Resolution #71 was made by Trustee Bickerton to forgive most of the penalties to the Northern Columbia Associates for their sewer bill. Trustee Nero seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Resolution # 72 was made by Trustee Bickerton to go in to executive session to discuss matters before the Board at 9:42 PM. Trustee Bevens seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Resolution # 73 was made by Trustee Nero to come out of executive session at 10:26 PM, seconded by Trustee Bevens, all in favor, motion carried.

Resolution # 74 was made by Trustee Bickerton to give permission for the Building Inspector and the Village Engineer to visit the US Hotel to look for structural issues. Trustee Nero seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Resolution # 75 was made by Trustee Bevens to approve CDPHP as the Insurance carrier for the Village. Trustee Bickerton seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Mayor Argyle commented that the Village will collect $2,000 a month with the contract with Verizon.

With no further business to discuss;

Resolution # 76 was made by Trustee Williams to adjourn the meeting at 10:43 PM, seconded by Trustee Bevens, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Fischer

Village Clerk/ Treasurer