**VILLAGE OF VALATIE**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

**BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING/ ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

**APRIL 13, 2021**

**Board members present** **Audience**

Mayor Frank Bevens none

Trustee Sean Casey

Trustee Larry Eleby

Trustee Angelo Nero

Trustee David Williams

Village Clerk Barbara Fischer

Mayor Bevens opened the Public Hearing for the Tentative Budget at 6:33 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The Clerk read the Public Notice for the Tentative Budget. There were no comments or questions from the Board. Mayor Bevens stated that the tax rate went down about a penny but assessments went up.

**Resolution # 88** was made by Trustee Eleby and seconded by Trustee Nero, to close the Public Hearing for the Tentative Budget at 6:35 pm. All in favor, carried.

Mayor Bevens opened the Public Hearing for Local Law #1 at 6:39 pm to “Override the Tax Levy Limit for Fiscal Year 2021-2022”. This local law is intended to permit the Village Board to override the tax levy limit on the amount of property taxes that may be levied by the Village of Valatie pursuant to General Municipal Law, subsection 3-c, and to allow the Village to adopt a budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the “tax levy limit” as defined by subsection 3-c of the General Municipal Law.

The clerk read the Public Notice for Local Law #1 of 2021. Mayor Bevens opened up the floor for any public comments and there were none. There were no residents in attendance.

**Resolution #89** was made by Trustee Williams to ask Mayor Bevens to close the Public Hearing for Local Law #1 of 2021 at 6:39pm. Trustee Nero seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Resolution # 90** was made by Trustee Eleby to approve Local Law #1 of 2021 to Override the Tax Levy Limit for Fiscal Year 2021-2022. Trustee Nero seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Resolution #91** was made by Trustee Eleby to approve the Tentative Budget to become the Final Budget. Trustee Nero seconded, all in favor, carried and adopted.

**Resolution #92** was made by Trustee Casey and seconded by Trustee Williams, to adjourn the Public Hearings at 6:40 pm for Local Law #1 of 2021 and for the Final Budget Adoption. All in favor, carried.

Mayor Bevens opened the Organizational meeting at 6:42 pm. In attendance were the full Board, Attorney Robert Fitzsimmons and Clerk Fischer.

Mayor Bevens read through the list of appointments for the Board to review and asked for any questions/additions or deletions. Clerk Fischer added that the Board would also need the approval for payment of off abstract bills such as National Grid and CDPHP. All Board members were in agreement of the appointments for 2021-2022 with the inclusion of approving payment of off abstract bills before each monthly meeting, carried. (The appointment list will be attached to the minutes)

The Board paused the meeting until the Regular Board of Trustees meeting convened.

The Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was opened at 7:00 pm by Mayor Bevens.

The audience consisted of Valatie Rescue Squad members Scott Bowman, Steven Meehan and David Yates. Also in attendance was Anthony Buono.

**Public Comments**-

Scott Bowman, Steven Meehan and David Yates, all from Valatie Rescue Squad, were in attendance to ask the Board for approval to begin using their room in the Martin H. Glynn building once again so they may do training with members only. The Squad presented a brochure of what training would be given and the procedures they would abide by so that everyone would remain socially distanced and safe. A group of only 5-10 members would be allowed in for training at any given time. A list of dates and times that the squad members would be in the building would be provided to the Village and to the Town for approval. All Board members were pleased with the presentation after many questions were answered satisfactorily. All Board members agreed to allow the Valatie Rescue Squad to re-enter the Martin H. Glynn Building for training of members only. All were in agreement that the Board would meet again once it is determined that it would be safe to allow anyone else in at a future time. This will of course be dependent upon the status of COVID- 19.

Mayor Bevens stated that he wanted to get approval of the Village and the Town employees before the final decision was made regarding any employee concerns due to COVID. If the employees are ok with this, then the Squad could enter the building under the conditions talked about. The mayor will then contact the Rescue Squad with the decision.

**Resolution #93** was made by Trustee Eleby to allow the Valatie Rescue Squad to begin training members only in groups of 10 or less, in their room at the Martin H. Glynn building as long as the employees of the Town of Kinderhook and the Village of Valatie felt safe enough to allow them to enter the building. Trustee Casey seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Resolution # 94** was made by Trustee Nero to approve the minutes of March 9, 2021. Trustee Eleby seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Resolution # 95** was made by Trustee Williams to approve the Tentative Budget Hearing meeting minutes of March 29, 2021. Trustee Eleby seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Resolution #96** was made by Trustee Eleby to approve the abstract of bills 2020-11-#402-446 for a total of $51,302.1 and the off abstract of bills that total $15,611.52. Total of all bills is $66,913.62. Trustee Nero seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Greenfield Development**-

Anthony Buono attended the meeting to discuss the renewal of the 2018 Memorandum of Agreement that he was granted. This renewal agreement, would include the same terms as the 2018 version which would have no more than 4 housing units on his land which is located on Rod & Gun Club Road. Water would be connected from the water district that goes under Rod & Gun Club Road, not through the Little Falls Development. There will be no infrastructure coming through the Little Falls Development. An engineer would determine the size of the water line needed and the Village would only be involved in billing for water used.

**Resolution # 97** was made by Trustee Eleby to sign the renewed Memorandum of Agreement for Anthony Buono who will be constructing a 4 unit only development on land he currently owns on Rod & Gun Club Road. There will not be any infrastructure going through the Little Falls Development. The Village will only be involved in billing for water usage. Trustee Nero seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Fire Department**-

There were 9 calls in the month of March. There were a total of 78 for the year from 4/1/20 to 3/31/21. The department is planning on doing an Open House for Recruitment and Retention weekend. All COVID-19 rules will be followed.

There was one fire alarm activation for the month of March at the COARC building on Lake Street. The facility conducted a fire drill but failed to notify the alarm company.

On April 6, 2021, the Fire Department held their Annual Elections. The following officers were elected:

**Fire Chief**- Joseph H. Loeffler

**1st Asst. Chief**- Joseph Lavaiano

**Captain**- Phil Martel

**1st Lieutenant**- Anthony Bashford

**Resolution # 98** was made by Trustee Eleby to approve the new officers for the Fire Department from 4/1/21-3/31/22. Trustee Williams seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Water Department**- Mayor Bevens read through the report for the month of April and they will be included with the minutes. The complete end of year 2020 Budget Purchase requests was provided to the Board and will be included with the meeting minutes. The Annual Water Report has been filed in the Village office and will be posted on the Village website and advertised in the newspaper.

Three quotes were sought for new doors for the Chemical Room at the WWTP and a replacement door and window at the WPH 1.

Stuyvesant Mechanical was the only company who would be able to start the job in the time frame needed. The cost of material and labor for the new doors for the disinfection room at the WWTP would be $4,545. The cost for a single door unit at the WPH1 for material and labor is $2,200.00 and the material and labor cost for the replacement window at the WPH1 is $2,875.00. The total cost of the job would be $9,620.00.

**Resolution # 99** was made by Trustee Williams to approver the request to replace the new doors for the Disinfection room at the WWTP at a cost of $4,545.00, a single door unit at WPH 1 at a cost of $2,200.00 and a replacement window in WPH 1 for a total cost of $2,875. 00 Trustee Casey seconded, all in favor, carried.

A quote was received for a Fischer 8’x6” x XV2 plow for the Village truck at a cost of $6,019.82. Three quotes were sought after but only one was received, Checkered Flag Fabrications.

**Resolution # 100** was made by Trustee Eleby to purchase a Fischer 8’ x 6” XV2 plow for the Village truck. Trustee Casey seconded, all in favor, carried.

The WWTP also asked for a quote for a Metrotech VM 810 Pipe Locator and Induction Clamp for service lines. They received a quote of $ 3,553.94 from which is supplied by Ferguson Waterworks through Pollard Water.

**Resolution # 101** was made by Trustee Casey to purchase the Metrotech VM 810 Pipe Locator and Induction Clamp for service lines at a cost of $3,553.94. Trustee Williams seconded, all in favor, carried.

Quotes were received from Smith Well Drilling for work on well #1. The first phase of the project for an 8 inch exploratory test of the well will cost $5,500.00. The second phase of a screen will cost $10,350.00. The total cost of phase one and phase two will be $15,850.00.

**Resolution # 102** was made by Trustee Eleby to approve the work on well #1 by Smith Well Drilling at a cost of $15,850.00. Trustee Nero seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Highway**- Mayor Bevens spoke to Supervisor Leader regarding the highway contract which will run out by May 31, 2021 for a total of $120,000. Payment will be made in two installments of $60,000 each, the first payment will be paid no later than June 30, 2021 and the second payment will be made no later than December 31, 2021.

**Resolution # 103** was made by Trustee Williams to sign the Highway contract with the Town of Kinderhook and agreed to keep the same amount that the contract was last year for a total of $120,000. Trustee Casey seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Clerk Report**- The April water/sewer billing is underway and we have been in contact with the New Water Program company to move things forward now. This will be a long process that may not be completed until the early part of next year. The Tax Cap and the Constitutional Tax Limit have been submitted to the State which is needed to be done prior to approval of the Budget. Now the approved Budget will be sent to the NYS Comptroller’s Office.

**Applications to MHG**- The Board discussed opening up the building to groups again but decided to table this discussion until the June meeting to see what the COVID-19 numbers are.

**Resolution # 104** was made by Trustee Williams to table opening up the Martin H. Glynn building discussion again until the June meeting to see what the COVID -19 numbers are at that time. Trustee Nero seconded, all in favor, carried.

Mayor Bevens received a quote from the Columbia County IT Department regarding a desk top computer for the Mayor. Approval is needed to purchase the desk top computer at a cost of $820.00.

**Resolution # 105** was made by Trustee Eleby to allow the Mayor to purchase a desk top computer form the Columbia County IT department at a cost of $820.00. Trustee Williams seconded, all in favor, carried.

Dave Ames has requested use of Callan Park again this year for the baseball camp he runs. The Board needs to approve this use for July 19-23, 2021.

**Resolution # 106** was made by Trustee Williams to allow the Baseball Camp to be held from July 19-23, 2021 at Callan Park. Trustee Casey seconded, all in favor, carried.

The girls softball team Chaos, has asked to use the field at Callan Park this summer. They will need to coordinate with the Little League on use of the field.

**Resolution # 107** was made by Trustee Williams to allow the girls softball team Chaos, use the field at Callan Park if they coordinate the use time with the Little League groups. Trustee Casey seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Resolution # 108** was made by Trustee Casey and seconded by Trustee Williams, to reappoint John Bryan to the Planning Board for another term and Mary Barford to the Zoning Board of Appeals for another term. All in favor, carried.

**Other Business**-

The Board discussed a letter from former Senior Center Director Irene Morrissey, asking if some Seniors could use the center again for certain periods of time to play cards. The Board is still a little apprehensive yet to allow anyone in there until the numbers for COVID-19 are down a little more. The Board will revisit tis again at the June Board of Trustees meeting.

A group called the “River Keepers”, a non-profit organization who are dedicated to protecting the Hudson River, sent a letter asking for permission to clean up around the Pachaquack Preserve since this area is part of the Hudson River Watershed. All Board members agreed to allow this group to work on this and will take care of disposing any garbage that is left.

The Board discussed with Attorney Fitzsimmons, short term rental Air B “N” B’s. Rob will amend the use table code and send a sample of the wording to John Bryan for the Planning Board meeting that will be held soon.

**Village Wide Yard Sale**- Randall Schmit has been in discussion with the Mayor for a date for the Village Wide Yard sale. No date has been determined yet.

**Main Street update on crosswalks**- The State has not given the Village a date yet on when the crosswalks will be done.

**Summer Playgroup with the Town of Kinderhook**- The cost this year to send kids who live within the Village, will be $180 per child this year, up from last years cost of $100 per child. The Village sponsors up to 10 children each year to attend.

**Resolution # 109** was made by Trustee Williams to pay $180 per child who lives within the Village of Valatie, to attend the Summer playground program sponsored by the Town of Kinderhook. Trustee Casey seconded, all in favor, carried.

The work at the playground and pavilion at Callan Park will begin by the end of April

**Resolution # 110** was made by Trustee Eleby to enter executive session at 8:39 pm to discuss a deputy clerk position and a pending lawsuit before the Village. Trustee Casey seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Resolution # 111** was made by Trustee Casey to exit executive session at 8:47 pm, seconded by Trustee Nero, all in favor, carried.

**Resolution # 112** was made by Trustee Casey to advertise for a Deputy Clerk position to be filled for the Village Office. Trustee Eleby seconded, all in favor, carried.

With no further business before the Board,

**Resolution # 113** was made by Trustee Eleby to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 pm. Trustee Casey seconded, all in favor, carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Fischer

Village Clerk