VILLAGE OF VALATIE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

DECEMBER 9, 2014

FINAL

MEMBERS PRESENT ABSENT AUDIENCE

Mayor Diane Argyle Trustee Frank Bevens, notified 10 residents/attendees

Trustee Philip Bickerton 2 Reporters

Trustee Angelo Nero

Trustee David Williams

Robert Fitzsimmons, Esq.

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

The mayor opened the Public Hearing at 7:01 pm for Local Law # 3 of the year 2014 amending the Code of the Village of Valatie Chapter 107 entitled Sewers. Additions/corrections/input made by Wastewater Treatment Superintendent Paul Warner were noted to the Board. There was no Public comment.

Mayor Argyle closed the Public Hearing at 7:04pm.

Resolution # 77 was made by Trustee Bickerton to adopt Local Law #3 amending the Code of the Village of Valatie Chapter 107 entitled Sewers. Trustee Nero seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Mayor Argyle opened the Public Hearing at 7:04 pm for comments on the Parking Lot next to the American Legion Building on Main Street that the Board has placed up for bid. A woman from the audience commented that the Village should retain the parking lot for public use. Mayor Argyle stated that she did a survey of the amount of parking spaces that are available throughout the Village and there are approximately 150 spaces for the public to park which include spaces at the Senior Center and Luther Street. A quote to repair the parking lot was given to the Mayor by Highway Superintendent John Ruchel with an estimate of $39,000.00.

Resolution # 78 was made by Trustee Williams to go out to bid again for a buyer for the parking lot next to the American Legion with a minimum bid price of $7500. Trustee Nero seconded the motion, all in favor, no opposed, motion carried.

Darren Grout and Gunther Fishgold have agreed give $3,000 to the Village for a grant to have the garage removed at the US Hotel on Main Street to allow for possible additional parking.

Mayor Argyle closed the Public Hearing for the parking lot at 7:15 pm.

Mayor Argyle stated that there are three (3) rumors circulating through the Village which are all false. The first rumor is in regard to the Village removing the islands near Barnwell nursing home. The Village has no plans to remove these islands. The only thing the Board may do is remove the rock wall that is continually being run in to by vehicles.

The second one is in regard to the US Hotel closing its’ doors. The US Hotel is proceeding with their plans to fix any building violations and they are looking for a buyer. An inspection will be done on the US Hotel by the Village Engineer and a report will be available in the Village office.

The third rumor is in regard to the Rescue Squad being developed on Rod & Gun Club Road. This property is not located in the Village and therefore does not involve the Village Board.

The mayor asked residents to please contact the Village Offices if they have any concerns or questions at all.

Pamela Joern asked the Board what the status is with code enforcement for Building Violations. Mr. Fitzsimmons stated that she needed to send a FOIL request to the building inspector in case there is some information that is not available for public viewing but the Village would give her whatever else they could.

The mayor closed the public comment period.

Representatives from Delaware Engineering were not in attendance but emailed the mayor asking the Board to accept the bid for the screen project for the sewer plant so that an agreement can be drawn up to proceed with the project.

Resolution # 79 was made by Trustee Williams to accept the bid from C.O. Falter Construction Co. and award them the contract for the screen project at the sewer plant. Trustee Nero seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Resolution # 80 was made by Trustee Bickerton to accept the minutes of the November 17, 2014 meeting, seconded by Trustee Williams, all in favor, motion carried.

Resolution #81 was made by Trustee Bickerton to approve the payment of claims 2014- 07.299-339

For a total amount of $56,911.37. Trustee Nero seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

**Fire Department**- no report.

**Theatre**

Trustee Williams will contact Dr. Baillargeon regarding possibly putting a lock on the heating system and who would be allowed to touch the system.

**Parks**- no report.

**Water/Sewer**-

Resolution # 82 was made by Trustee Williams to replace the pump on well #2. Trustee Bickerton seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Resolution #83 was made by Trustee Bickerton to send water shut- off notices to Energy Onyx and the Val Kin Restaurant since they have recently been vacated and the Board does not want any water main breaks to occur. Trustee Nero seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

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

Plans for Winter Walk are in place. They will be contacting more musicians and the V.E.R.A. café will be open to sell soup, etc. The Valatie Bar & Grill will have the Reverberators playing music and there will be maps throughout the Village explaining where all the activities will be located. There will not be a hay ride this year due to an accident in another municipality and the Board feels there is too much liability. The parade will start at 5:00pm with Santa and proceed from Holly Hills and will continue to Main Street. Our very own Trustee Dave Williams and Village Historian Dominic Lizzi will share the honors of riding on a float in the parade.

**Landscape**- no report.

Representatives from New York Renewable Energy, Engineering and Recycling Group (NYREER) gave a presentation on Solar Energy. This company is based out of Clifton Park, NY and they presented a Power Purchasing Agreement to the Board. The booklet presentation is on file in the clerk’s office. The mayor will give this proposal to the Village Engineer to review.

**Clerk Office**-

The clerk presented two quotes for a new Water/Sewer billing program and a tax collection program that is used by Columbia County.

**Senior Center**- no report.

**Grant Applications**-

There are 5 applications before the Board for the improvement of the facades of Main Street businesses. The applications included; Joe Nastke for Shooters, Great Finds, Randall Schmitts’ art gallery, and Grenci Enterprises for Mark’s Pizza and 3039 Main Street.

Resolution #84 was made by Trustee Nero to approve all 5 applications contingent upon the necessary paperwork to be completed and all buildings are up to code. Trustee Williams seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Trustee Bickerton commented that there have been complaints regarding people driving too fast on Spring Street. It was discussed that placing a no right turn on to Spring Street may slow vehicles down. Mayor Argyle will contact DOT.

Resolution #85 was made by Trustee Bickerton to go into executive session at 8:31pm to discuss the employee health package. Trustee Williams seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Resolution # 86 was made by Trustee Bickerton to come out of executive session at 9:14 pm. Trustee Williams seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Resolution # 87 was made by Trustee Bickerton to purchase the new water/sewer program and tax collection program depending on funding. Trustee Williams seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

There was no further business before the Board to discuss.

Resolution # 88 was made by Trustee Bickerton to adjourn the meeting at 9:16 pm, seconded by Trustee Nero, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Fischer

Village Clerk/Treasurer