**VILLAGE OF VALATIE**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**DECEMBER 13, 2016**

**FINAL**

**Present** **Audience**

Mayor Diane Argyle Randall Schmitt- V.E.R.A.

Trustee Frank Bevens 1st Asst. Chief Rustin Dolan

Trustee Angelo Nero Walt Simonsmeier

Trustee Philip Bickerton Larry Eleby

Trustee David Williams

Robert Fitzsimmons, Esq.

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

**Resolution #230** was made by Trustee Bevens to accept the minutes of the November 15, 2016 minutes as presented. Trustee Nero seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Resolution #231** was made by Trustee Bickerton to approve claims 2016-7- #311-369 for a total of $31,726.34 and $48,476.30 for off abstract bills which included NYS Retirement and a Water Bond. Total of all bills was $80,202.64. Trustee Williams seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Public Comment**-

Walt Simonsmeier asked the Board to consider 2 spaces marked for 15 minute parking on the side of his business. Since the no parking sign was placed along side of his business, it has made it difficult for the regular customers to make a quick stop to pick up their items since the parking in front of his business is taken up. The Board considered a trial 15 foot parking space which would take place from 9:00am-9:00 pm. Mr. Fitzsimmons stated that a local law would need to be made for this change and could be included with the other changes to the local law for trailers, the Senior Housing law and Patton Lane. A Public Hearing will take place before the January 10th meeting for the Local Law changes if there is a response back from the County Planning Board.

**Fire Department**-(on file in Clerk’s Office)

First Assistant Chief Rustin Dolan reported that there were 3 alarms since the last Board meeting. The ladder truck will be out of service for annual chassis service and 55-20 will need a new radiator. All mandatory training has been completed for the year and 2 sets of turnout gear has been put into service.

**Theater**-

Mayor Argyle reported that the sheds behind the Theater are gone and the area has been cleaned up. There was discussion on opening up the road next to the Theater and where to place a stop sign for through traffic. A new walkway will also be eventually put in.

**Parks**-

Trees will be moved from the Barnwell Island to Callan Park since the island will be eventually be taken out.

**Resolution #232** was made by Trustee Bevens to allow the Church Street Pre-School to again hold the “Run for Hope”. The run will be held on May 13, 2017. Trustee Bickerton seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Water/Sewer Dept**.-(Monthly report is on file)

Paul Warner gave a response regarding the proposed Car Wash near the former Val-Kin restaurant (included in the monthly report). We are still waiting for a report from the Village Engineer regarding the meter for the Village of Kinderhook.

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

Randall Schmitt reported that Winter Walk was a great success. Everyone enjoyed the parade with all the fire companies and the face painter at the Senior Center was a big hit. There were more volunteers this year. The only issue was the amplifiers were a little loud.

**Clerk’s Office**-

The Village Offices will be closing at noon the Thursday before Christmas and will open again the Tuesday after Christmas at 9:00 am. The offices will again be closed Monday after New Year’s Day and reopen at 9:00 am on Tuesday. Work continues on the new water program and the clerk attended training for the tax collection program and a meeting for the area Village Clerk’s Association in the Town of Colonie offices.

**Trash**-

The Mayor stated that there have been issues with garbage collection. Currently the code book states that collection will only take place for residences. There was also discussion for garbage collection at the new “Val-Tucket” cottages. Attorney Fitzsimmons suggested maybe looking into having a commercial level for 4 or more units. Mayor Argyle will look into this further.

**Moratorium for Solar Panels**-

Mr. Fitzsimmons will look into a local law for ground mount system for Solar Panels. Mayor Argyle appointed Trustee Dave Williams to head up a Solar Panel Committee.

**Senior Housing Law**- A public hearing will take place hopefully before the January Board meeting once a letter is received back from Columbia County Planning.

**Comprehensive Plan Committee**-

A new committee has been formed to update the current Comprehensive Plan. Volunteers from the Planning and Zoning Boards are on this committee as well as interim Trustee Larry Eleby and Phil Bickerton who will sit on this committee as a resident for the Village. A notice will be placed on the website asking for volunteers from the community.

**Energy Onyx**-

A quote of $15,000 was received from Paul Freeman to foreclose on the Energy Onyx property. There is still a lot of inventory in the building which a Mr. Alan Brill is looking to recoup.

**Resolution # 233** was made by Trustee Bickerton to proceed with the foreclosure on the Energy Onyx building. Trustee Bevens seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Senior Center**-

Trustee Bickerton will be working on the counter top in the kitchen to slide the stove over a little bit.

**Highway Dept**.-

Mayor Argyle commented on the excellent job the Highway Department did with all the plowing for a recent storm. The bushes on the Porreca property have finally been removed. Trustee Bevens will write a “Thank You” note to Mr. Porreca for his cooperation in removing the bushes on his corner.

**Other business**-

A letter was received from Joe Laviano regarding erosion of Patton Lane. The Board will look into this matter. (Letter on file)

A letter was received from Nancy Kohler regarding her delinquent water/sewer and tax bills. She questioned why her bills were so high. The Mayor commented that letters had been sent to her over many years and there had been no response from her. A delinquent tax letter was also sent to her by Attorney Fitzsimmons back in 2013 again with no response from her. The Board requested that no relief be given since she had been notified several times to pay her delinquent bills.

**Resolution # 234** was made by Trustee Bickerton to accept a proposal for electrical work to change out 4 light components to LED Lamps at the Little Falls parking lot. Trustee Williams seconded, all in favor, carried.

**MHG applications**-

1. Columbia County Democratic Committee would like to use the meeting room for monthly meetings.
2. AARP- Tax preparation services starting February 2nd.

**Resolution # 235** was made by Trustee Bickerton to approve the applications. Trustee Williams seconded, all in favor, carried.

The Board “Thanked” Trustee Bickerton for his many years of service to the Village of Valatie and wished him well in his term as a Town Board member.

With no further business to discuss,

**Resolution #236** was made by Trustee Bickerton to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 pm, seconded by Trustee Nero. All in favor, carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Fischer, RMC

Village Clerk