

MONTHLY MEETING OF THE
VILLAGE OF RICHMONDVILLE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

August 16, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Village of Richmondville was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Deputy Mayor Natasha Foote. Present were Trustees Vivian Thurber, Milan Jackson, and David Hotzler. Also present were Clerk-Treasurer Joe Pizzo, Superintendent of Public Works Jim Swartout, Vickie Swartout, Fire Chief Dennis Cole, Superintendent of Power & Light Jeff Van Deusen, Phil Butler, and RFD President Eric Haslun.

Clerk-Treasurer Pizzo announced that the meeting was being taped.

Privilege of the Floor

Adoption of Minutes

Trustee Thurber moved to approve the minutes of the July 19, 2016 regular board meeting as presented, seconded by Trustee Jackson; carried unanimously.

Trustee Jackson moved to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2016 special board meeting as presented, seconded by Trustee Thurber; carried unanimously.

Trustee Thurber moved to approve the minutes of the July 28, 2016 special board meeting as presented, seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Trustee Jackson moved to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2016 special board meeting as presented, seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Resolutions

Trustee Thurber moved to approve Resolution #29-16 authorizing hiring of a summer lifeguard, seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Department Reports

Deputy Mayor Foote reported for Code Enforcement Officer Don Clarke in his absence. The 5-cent deposit store is now open for business. We should try to support our local businesses. A stop work order was issued on Robert Street and a building permit was issued. There was a fire at a two family home on Robert Street and one apartment was damaged. The owner will be rebuilding. Nothing has happened yet with the River St. Apartment project. Code Enforcement Clarke handled several other complaints. The fire inspections are up to date. Trustee Thurber asked if Code Enforcement Officer Clarke inspected the house with the bad odor. Clerk Treasurer Pizzo informed Trustee Thurber that he did inspect the house and the odor was a dead animal.

Trustee Hotzler moved to accept the Code Enforcement Officer's report as presented, seconded by Trustee Thurber; carried unanimously.

Clerk-Treasurer Pizzo reported that August was electric month. Electric was down from 2015. Total taxes received as of August 16th was \$192,954.45. Water/sewer late fees were posted on August 12th. Total water late fees were \$669.81 and total sewer late fees were \$586.63. Clerk-Treasurer Pizzo also reported that the Certificates of Deposit have been renewed. Also Jeff Haslun is putting the final touches on the annual reports. Presentation will take place at October's meeting. Clerk Treasurer Pizzo thanked Denise Smith for her help with all summer programs. Clerk-Treasurer Pizzo that he completed and submitted the 2015-2016 PERMA audit. Also the annual payroll certification has been accepted by the Schoharie County Department of Personnel and Civil Service.

Trustee Jackson moved to accept the Clerk-Treasurer's report as presented, seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Superintendent of Public Works Jim Swartout reported on streets, water and sewer. DPW is working on mowing and trimming. Soil and Water came out and reseeded the ditching on Ploss Road and DPW also did some ditch and culvert cleaning. Also the pool is open and running well. The diving board cracked and a new one is on order. Superintendent of Public Works Swartout also reported that the route 7 culvert project is moving along slowly. A schedule for the work to be done was set at a site meeting and completion will be December 1st. While brush cutting the kudzu around Park Avenue Superintendent of Public Works Swartout hit a bicycle that was hidden in the bushes. It was pretty well beat up afterwards. DPW is working on reparations for it. the yearly approval and destruction of records has been completed. The water plant is running fine. The water quality is pretty good for this time of year, but there have been a couple of taste and odor complaints. Superintendent of Public Works Swartout had a meeting with a company that sells equipment for fluoridation at the WTP and is getting information together to apply for a grant for new equipment. The lower reservoir is down about a foot and the upper is still overflowing. Superintendent of Public Works Swartout is still getting permits in order for the water project and will be able to go out to bid soon but it could be late September before all the permits are in order. Superintendent of Public Works Swartout registered for the Risk, Resiliency, and Managing your Assets workshop to be held at the Syracuse Center of Excellence Headquarters on October 6th. The sewer plant is running fine. DPW had its annual inspection of the wastewater plant by DEC. Superintendent of Public Works Swartout was not comfortable with the condition of the plant but was given a satisfactory rating. More time needs to be spent at the plant to stay ahead. Monthly meetings of the Wastewater Sustainability Utility Management Committee continue. A Public Information meeting will be held at the September board meeting.

Trustee Thurber moved to accept the Superintendent of Public Works' report as presented, seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Superintendent of Power and Light Van Deusen reported that several poles along Route 7 are still being worked on. Tree trimming is being done in several locations. There were a few Dig Safely New York locations and two repaired yard lights. There were approximately ten turn on/off meters and readings. Pink slips will be issued on August 22nd as well as disconnects. Superintendent of Power and Light Van Deusen also reported that Bret Ryder will be attending his next Lineman school the week of September 19th. He will again be needing his \$200.00 expense money as well as his hotel check for \$444.00 which he will pick up on September 16th. There have been a few after hour call outs, but no major issues to report. There were two outages but none affecting occupied residents. Transformer Services, Inc. from Concord, N.H. is presently scheduled to do regulator repairs and oil change work at the substation the week of

August 30th. Superintendent of Power and Light Van Deusen has received confirmation from Altec that the new bucket truck will be delivered on August 16th. Austin Kubat, summer help, will be leaving on August 17th. Austin was a pleasure to have working at the Village. Trustee Thurber asked to get together with Superintendent of Power and Light Van Deusen to discuss OSHA requirements. Superintendent of Power and Light Van Deusen wanted to include Mayor Neary and Trustee Jackson at the meeting. Deputy Mayor Foote wanted to thank the DPW and RPL summer help.

Trustee Thurber moved to accept the Superintendent of Power & Light's report as presented, seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Fire Chief Dennis Cole reported that the fire department had six calls for the month. They had their annual physicals. They were awarded a \$46,834.00 grant. The Town of Seward is giving RFD a \$15,000.00 one-time grant to fix up the firehouse. The RFD helped the Cobleskill Fire Department at the Sunshine Fair. The hot water heater in the firehouse is malfunctioning. It was installed in 2003. Fire Department President Eric Haslun wanted to thank the Village Board for the IEEP use. There are still five exterior lights and one interior light needed which fire Department President Haslun said would cost about \$1,200.00. Superintendent of Power and Light Van Deusen mentioned that IEEP would have enough to cover the cost of the lights.

Trustee Jackson made a motion to go ahead with the lights, seconded by Trustee Thurber providing money is available; carried unanimously.

Trustee Thurber moved to accept the Fire Chief's report as presented, seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Committee Reports

Denise Smith was excused and did not submit a report for board acceptance.

Trustee Thurber moved to accept the minutes of the June 13, 2016 Planning Board Public Hearing, seconded by Trustee Jackson; carried unanimously.

Trustee Thurber moved to accept the minutes of the June 29, 2016 Planning Board Special Meeting, seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Trustee Thurber moved to accept the minutes of the July 14, 2016 Planning Board Regular Meeting, seconded by Trustee Jackson; carried unanimously.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Kevin Neary was excused but submitted a report in the form of an e-mail for board acceptance. It was read by Deputy Mayor Foote. Mayor Neary sincerely apologized for the short notice of being excused. In regards to the Dollar General, Mayor Neary spoke with Matt Loder and told him that the general consensus of the board was the pedestrian walkway or trail must be addressed by Dollar General before issuing a permit to move forward with the project. The Village applied for a 50-50 matching grant but will probably not hear from NYS for a few months. Mayor Neary also reached out to Senator Seward who told him that they are researching other funding opportunities. Senator Seward also contacted NYSDOT regarding reduction of the speed on Route 7 which could lead to a safe crossing to the proposed store. Clerk Treasurer was asked by Mayor Neary to send all board members a copy of the letter. In regards to Richmondville Volunteer Emergency Squad, Mayor Neary has a meeting with Betsy Bernocco,

Scott Bennett, and Town Supervisor Dick Lape on August 22nd at 8:30. Mayor Neary stated that RVES is a mess because of poor leadership which he believes has led to a lack of trust within the community. Trustee Thurber further explained that RVES is in financial dire straits with low membership. Trustee Thurber mentioned that RVES is deciding whether or not to fold their operation. They have approached the Town and Dick Lape said the Town would have to own the building outright to take it over. The land was gifted to the Village a long time ago so it may not be possible for Town to buy the building. Trustee Thurber mentioned that Mayor Neary said that RVES needs to be honest so they can be helped to stay in operation.

Trustee Thurber moved to accept the Mayor's report as presented, seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

New Business

Trustee Jackson announced that the Village will be having a staff meeting/bbq lunch at his house on August 19th.

Old Business

Audit of Bills

Trustee Thurber moved to approve payment of General, Water, Sewer, and Electric Abstracts #3, seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Executive Session

Trustee Thurber motions to go into executive session at 7:22 pm to discuss a personnel matter, seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Executive session was adjourned at 7:34pm.

Adjournment

Trustee Thurber moved to adjourn at 7:35 pm, seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Pizzo
Clerk-Treasurer

