

MONTHLY MEETING OF THE
VILLAGE OF RICHMONDVILLE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

December 15, 2015

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Village of Richmondville was called to order at 6:24 p.m. by Mayor Kevin Neary. Present was board member David Hotzler. Board member Milan Jackson was excused. Board member Natasha Foote was arriving late. Also present were Superintendent of Public Works Jim Swartout, Clerk-Treasurer Joe Pizzo, Vicki Swartout, Michelle Schaffer, Fire Chief Dennis Cole, Lee and Herm Peterson, Attorney Marvin Parshall, Jr. and Code Enforcement Officer Don Clarke. Superintendent of Power and Light Jeff Van Deusen was excused.

Privilege of the Floor

Village resident Lee Peterson requested privilege of the floor to discuss public burning. Trustee Natasha Foote entered the meeting at 6:34 p.m.. Mayor Neary stated to Mr. Peterson that he read the laws of public burning and it should be an enforcement issue. Mr. Peterson stated that his house is black from smoke stains. He is concerned with open fires outdoors. Mr. Peterson attempted to refer to the Department of Environmental Conservation but he said they wouldn't do anything. Attorney Marvin Parshall, Jr. stated that the DEC has the authority to deal with this issue. Mayor Neary stated that if we recognize state law within our law, the Village would have to amend its laws. Mayor Neary stated to Mr. Peterson that the Village is not ignoring the bonfire issue, it is just difficult to enforce. He does not have an answer for this issue and suggested a public hearing be held to address it. Code Enforcement Officer Don Clarke suggested that the Village have a DEC officer attend the public hearing.

Village resident Todd Sperbeck requested privilege of the floor to discuss Dollar General issue. Mayor Neary stated that the owner of the land where the store would go would have to request the re-zoning, not Bohler Engineering. The re-zone must be done according to law. Mr. Sperbeck stated that he can't sell a house in this area and Mayor Neary stated that the main reason is that Richmondville is assessed at 100% and this reason also is the cause for businesses not to come here. Mr. Sperbeck stated that there is no draw in Richmondville for jobs. He also pointed out that Cobleskill is assessed at 74-76%.

Adoption of Minutes

Trustee Hotzler moved to approve the minutes of the November 24, 2015 regular board meeting as presented, seconded by Trustee Foote; carried unanimously.

Resolutions

Trustee Foote moved adoption of Resolution #34-15, appointing Linda Carpenter and Diana Spenello co-chairpersons of the Village Planning Board; seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Trustee Foote moved adoption of Resolution #35-15, identifying the polling place and the hours the polls will be open for the Village Election; seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Trustee Foote moved adoption of Resolution #36-15, appointing a committee for the New York Rural Water Association study, with 2 residents to follow; seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Trustee Foote moved adoption of Resolution #37-15, amending appointments to the Village Planning and Zoning Board of Appeals (with corrections)

Department Reports

Clerk-Treasurer Joe Pizzo reported on electric utility billing for November. Total billing was up from \$105,216.62 in 2014 to \$119,277.96 in 2015 Residential billing was down from \$75,141.90 in 2014 to \$64,551.62 in 2015 while commercial billing was up from \$30,074.72 in 2014 to \$54,726.34 in 2015.

Clerk-Treasurer Pizzo continued to report that payment #5 of 5 on the Bond Anticipation Note for the Bobcat is due on December 29th.

Clerk-Treasurer Pizzo reported on the health insurance update saying that he and Mayor Neary had a preliminary health insurance meeting with Cindy Bennett of JKB Benefits in which they discussed plan options.

Clerk-Treasurer Pizzo also reported that preparations will begin for the 2016-2017 budget year by beginning work on the Budget template.

Clerk-Treasurer Pizzo reported that he filed the quarterly sales tax for the Power & Light for September thru November. The amount due was \$5,774.16. December 29th is the first day independent nominating petitions can be signed. Pizzo also reported that January is water/sewer billing month and rates will remain the same.

Clerk-Treasurer Pizzo concluded his report by saying that the Christmas Business Luncheon is on Thursday, December 24th at Wolfe's Restaurant. Please RSVP by December 22nd.

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

Superintendent of Public Works James Swartout reported that they still have not had to use the stockpile of sand. DPW finally has decided that to fix the GMC dump truck to purchase a used motor would be the cheapest and best route. One was found that belonged to Superior Homes and it can be purchased for \$2,500 and be installed by Alton Palmer. DPW is still waiting for the final plans for the Rte. 7 project. The firehouse heating system has been installed and the old one has been removed. Amerigas is waiting for the tank to be almost empty to change it out for a larger one due to the increase in propane use. Superintendent of Public Works Swartout wanted to thank MPB Plumbing and Heating for their professional installation.

Superintendent of Public Works Swartout also reported that the water plant is working fine and all but one heater in the plant is usable. Superintendent of Public Works Swartout applied to DOH to use remaining funds from the earlier grant to replace air actuated valves and a couple of electric heaters. The price for this is approximately \$5,600. The annual DOH inspection went well. The lower reservoir is almost full and the upper reservoir is overflowing. Superintendent of Public Works Swartout reported that he is applying for a NYSDOH grant to upgrade the fluoridation system at the water plant. There was a problem with the generator at the water plant, but an ag dealer in Kansas had the parts needed to fix the problem.

Superintendent of Public Works Swartout reported that the sewer plant was running fine. They have the opportunity to accept more septage from an outside hauler, which will be good for

them financially and Superintendent of Public Works Swartout believes it will not upset the process at the plant. They will monitor if they can accept more or less. He is still waiting on the DEC inspection report.

Superintendent of Public Works Swartout has looked into doing a study to rate the sustainability of the Wastewater plant and collection system. This will take up to a year and with monthly meetings to include 2 board members, 2 end users and himself with NYRWA facilitating the meetings and the report.

Superintendent of Public Works Swartout is applying to DEC to be part of a pilot program to study Municipal Sewage System Asset Management (MSSAM). In a few years something close to this will be mandatory and the facilities will have to pay for the study.

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

Superintendent of Power and Light Jeff Van Deusen was excused but provided a report for Board review

In the absence of Superintendent of Power and Light Jeff Van Deusen, Mayor Neary presented the RPL report. Trustee Foote wanted to know if we know more about the vandalism in the park.

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

Code Enforcement Officer Don Clarke reported the usual permits and inspections. He reported that everything was going smooth. A new house is going up on Richmond Heights in the Spring.

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

Fire Chief Dennis Cole reported that the new heating system in the firehouse is a major improvement, however, additional work needs to be done in the meeting room among other things.

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

Mayor's Report

Mayor Neary reported that the training in Quickbooks is coming up in January, followed by training in Excel basic. Mayor Neary also reported that the Village is having a full staff meeting on Wednesday, December 16th, which was set up by Trustee Jackson. There is a need to set up a Public Hearing on the re-zoning issue in January. Mayor Neary also met with Shane Nickel regarding the subdivision on High Street behind the mill. Mayor Neary reported that Harry Loder, owner of the land to be re-zoned, is the only one who can subdivide the land. A date, time and place was discussed for the Public Hearing for the land re-zoning. A date of January 23rd at 11:00 am at the Richmondville Firehouse was discussed.

Trustee Hotzler moved to accept the Public Hearing to be held on January 23rd at 11:00 at the Richmondville Firehouse, seconded by Trustee Foote; carried unanimously.

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

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New Business

No new business at this meeting.

Audit of Bills

Trustee Foote moved to approve payment of General, Water, Sewer, and Electric Abstracts #7, seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Trustee Foote moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 pm, seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Executive Session-after Adjournment

Mayor Neary moved to enter into executive session at 6:53 pm for the purpose of discussing an employee matter, seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously. Also present was Clerk-Treasurer Pizzo and Attorney Marvin Parshall, Jr..

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Pizzo
Clerk-Treasurer