

MONTHLY MEETING OF THE
VILLAGE OF RICHMONDVILLE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

January 19, 2016

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Village of Richmondville was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Deputy Mayor and Trustee Natasha Foote. Mayor Kevin Neary was not present at the meeting, but was available by phone. Present were Trustees David Hotzler and Milan Jackson. Also present were Clerk Treasurer Joe Pizzo, Superintendent of Public Works Jim Swartout, Superintendent of Power and Light Jeff Van Deusen, Attorney Marvin Parshall, Jr., Phil Butler, Vicki Swartout, and Lee and Herman Peterson. Fire Chief Dennis Cole was absent. Deputy Mayor Natasha Foote phoned Mayor Kevin Neary at 6:01 pm.

Privilege of the Floor

Village resident Lee Peterson requested privilege of the floor. He asked when the Public Hearing regarding bonfires would take place. Clerk-Treasurer told him the Public Hearing would be held on January 23rd. Mr. Peterson stated that the Legal Notice did not mention the bonfire issue, but Clerk-Treasurer informed him that a press release was put in the Times Journal, Daily Gazette, and the Daily Star including the bonfire issue.

Adoption of Minutes

Trustee Jackson moved to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2015 regular board meeting as presented, seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Trustee Jackson moved to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2016 special meeting as presented, seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Resolutions

There were no resolutions to approve at this meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. Peterson left the meeting at 6:20 pm.

Department Reports

Clerk-Treasurer Joe Pizzo reported on electric utility billing, as well as water and sewer billing for December. Total electric billing was up from \$105,216.50 in 2014 to \$148,212.53 in 2015. Water billing increased to \$28,512.90 in 2014 to \$31,093.21 in 2015. Sewer billing decreased slightly from \$28,493.99 in 2014 to \$27,048.23 in 2015.

Clerk-Treasurer Pizzo continued to report that Town and County tax bills for RPL, the cell tower and reservoir were due on February 1, 2016. These bills were included in this meeting's abstract.

Clerk-Treasurer Pizzo reported that the Village and Union arrived at an agreement on the Village health insurance. It will change from CDPHP to MVP effective February 1, 2016. The Village's HRA(Health Reimbursement Account) also changed to MVP with the same effective date.

Clerk-Treasurer Pizzo also reported that 1099's and W-2's are due to individuals on January 31. W-2's were mailed on January 15th and 1099's would be going out this week. Quarterly water and sewer bills were sent out two weeks ago.

Clerk-Treasurer Pizzo reported that budget preparation for the 2016-2017 fiscal year will begin soon as letters will be delivered to department heads on February 1st. March 15th Village Election deadlines: February 2nd is the first day to file an independent nominating petition; February 3rd is the last day to fill a vacancy caused by a declination of a party nomination; February 4th is the last day for the Board of Trustees to appoint election inspectors. The Schoharie County Board of Elections will be called by Clerk-Treasurer Pizzo to obtain a list of available inspectors. February 9th is the last day to file an independent nominating petition.

Clerk-Treasurer Pizzo concluded his report by saying that the Village of Richmondville will be hosting this month's SCVOA dinner Wednesday, January 27th at Wolfe's Restaurant. The speaker will be Steve Wilson, the new Schoharie County Administrator. Deputy Mayor Foote asked when to RSVP by and Clerk-Treasurer responded January 22nd.

Trustee Jackson questioned the significant increase in the electric billing from 2014 to 2015 and moved to not accept the Treasurer's report until the data is further researched. The Treasurer's Report was not accepted by the Board.

Superintendent of Public Works James Swartout reported on Streets, Water and Sewer: They have begun to plow and sand for the season. The updates to the Village office are nearly complete and it does look nice. The Firehouse heat is working well and the old heaters have been removed for updates to the meeting room. Eric Jones' pickup truck is back but it still is not like it should be.

Superintendent of Public Works Swartout also reported that the water plant is working fine. He is working on the grant for the fluoridation system upgrade. He has worked on updating some of the insulation at the plant. Mark Temp has expressed interest in getting his water license; Superintendent of Public Works Swartout thinks this is a good thing for him as well as the village. He requested permission to begin the process of getting Mark Temp licensed and included in his report some information on different courses that are available. Mark still has to pass a department of health test and requires that he gets a class A license. Enrollment would need to be enough to hold the class. Mark can be put in the rotation right away. The sooner the better as he has to accrue time in the water plant.

Superintendent of Public Works Swartout reported that the sewer plant was running fine. He has applied for the DEC pilot program of Wastewater Asset Management and 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.

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

Trustee Jackson moved to send Mark Temp to the Environmental Training Center to obtain his water license, seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Superintendent of Power and Light Jeff Van Deusen reported the following: RPL will begin this week cutting out trees at the intersection of Furnaceville Rd. & West Richmondville Rd. in preparation of a small line rebuild at this location to resolve deteriorated pole conditions involving 3 main line poles. This rebuild will include a total of 5 replacement poles and the addition of 1 new pole. RPL will also be retiring approximately 600 feet of old #4 solid copper conductor with new 1/0 aluminum conductor. This rebuild will also remove approximately 600 feet of "off road" line bringing this portion of line out to the road for easier access for the future for an additional 600 feet of new 1/0 aluminum conductor serving Furnaceville Rd..

Superintendent of RPL Van Deusen reported that there are few Dig Safely New York location issues. Bret Ryder took care of 1 issue. There were 2 repaired yard lights, no repaired street lights, approximately 6 meters turned on or off, which were customer requested. There were no disconnect notices. Everything is up to date regarding safety equipment and any monthly/annual inspection requirements. RPL is presently working with Eaton Power Systems to make necessary repairs. These issues with the regulators in the substation need to be addressed before it becomes critical. Also, RPL had to replace 1 transformer on Ploss Road.

Superintendent of RPL Van Deusen also reported that Tim Smith and Bret Ryder have attended 2 training sessions for the 2016 year. Bret Ryder responded to 1 after hours call out on January 9th. No outages have been reported. Three bids have been received for a 2016 Chevy pickup:

\$36,663.78 plus \$265 delivery charge- Van Bortle
37,341.00 no delivery charge- DeNooyer
37,806.00 plus \$325 delivery charge- Hastleton

A discussion followed regarding what would be the best bid. Also, a recent discussion was held with Mayor Neary regarding replacing the John Deere tractor that is used for snow removal. Trustee Foote mentioned that we can possibly use the Bobcat, but Van Deusen replied that it would rip up lawns Superintendent of RPL Van Deusen priced out a new 2016 model tractor in hopes that it would be here for the spring 2016 mowing season. The tractor costs \$19,116.18, an 18 HP Diesel.

Also reported was the final approval for design has been received from Altec for the new bucket truck.

With Steven Bender no longer employed by the Village, Superintendent of RPL Van Deusen asked what the Board's position on refilling the position. The Board replied that the Village needs to see where it is come budget time and make a decision then.

A recent discussion took place with Mayor Neary pertaining to meter testing and calibration with the present test device that RPL has. A discussion followed regarding the calibration proposal. Mayor Neary liked Superintendent of RPL Van Deusen's proposal on calibration. Presently the cost to purchase a refurbished test device would be approximately \$7,000. Van Deusen's opinion is if "smart metering" is in the future, an investment should not be made for something that is used and will only last a couple of years.

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

Trustee Jackson motioned to accept the bid from DeNooyer Chevrolet; seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Code Enforcement Officer Don Clarke was absent but provided a report for Board review. Trustee Foote read Code Enforcement Officer Don Clarke's report.

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

Fire Chief Dennis Cole was absent and did not provide a report for Board review.

Trustee Jackson thinks somebody should be present from the Fire Department if Fire Chief Dennis Cole cannot be. Superintendent of RPL Van Deusen gave a brief report in Fire Chief Dennis Cole's absence.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Neary did not present a report for Board review.

New Business

-A resolution approved by the Fire Department to extend VFBL Insurance to the Richmondville Fire Department

-A letter from Jeff Dauley requesting relief of a water bill

-Press release sent to the Daily Gazette, Times Journal, and Daily Star for the January 23rd Public Hearing

Superintendent of Public Works Jim Swartout explained to the Board that there was a miscommunication as to when Mr. Dauley turned his water off. Trustee Foote said we shouldn't have him pay the bill because he has not been living there.

Trustee Foote read the press release. Trustee Jackson asked to discuss the Electronic News Board at the next meeting.

Trustee Jackson moved to approve the resolution approved by the Fire Department to extend VFBL Insurance, seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Trustee Jackson moved to disregard Mr. Dauley's water bill, seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Audit of Bills

Trustee Jackson moved to approve payment of General, Water, Sewer, and Electric Abstracts #8, seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Trustee Foote moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:19 pm, seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Pizzo
Clerk-Treasurer