

MONTHLY MEETING OF THE
VILLAGE OF RICHMONDVILLE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

November 24, 2015

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Village of Richmondville was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Mayor Kevin Neary. Present were board members Natasha Foote and David Hotzler. Board member Milan Jackson was excused. Also present were Superintendent of Public Works Jim Swartout, Clerk-Treasurer Joe Pizzo, Village Planning Board member Linda Carpenter, Vicki Swartout, and Phil Butler. Attorney Marvin Parshall, Jr. indicated to Clerk-Treasurer Joe Pizzo prior to the meeting that he would be late. Code Enforcement Officer Don Clarke, Fire Chief Dennis Cole and Superintendent of Power and Light Jeff Van Deusen were excused.

Privilege of the Floor

Mayor Neary introduced Village Planning Board member Linda Carpenter. Linda reported that there would be a Planning Board meeting once a month earlier in the day in the afternoon to accommodate the schedules of the other Planning Board members (Mayor Neary mentioned that Village Planning Board member Gordon Delpit would not be able to make the meetings at night). A specific date and time has not been set at this point. Linda reported that Fire Department President Eric Haslun has supplied surveys to the Planning Board in reference to subdivisions in the Village. Linda also reported that a Public Hearing was scheduled for January 16, 2015 for this purpose. Linda also reported that Paul Sawyer has been pushing for a Dollar General store to be erected in the Village. Mayor Neary suggested that the Planning Board have a meeting with the Town Planning Board to further discuss the issue. Planning Board member Carpenter agreed and went on to report that herself and Planning Board member Diana Spenello will be appointed Co-Chairpersons to the Village Planning Board. Mayor Neary mentioned that the newly appointed Village Zoning Board of Appeals has not met yet and then suggested a meeting should be scheduled as soon as possible. Board member David Hotzler asked if the vacant 19 acres going into the Village runs all the way to the Radez school parking lot. He suggested that it should be rezoned. He also suggested that the speed limit in that area be lowered to make it safer for people to cross the street in that area. Mayor Neary said he will try to get copies of reports of speeds. Planning Board member Carpenter reported that they need a secretary to record the meeting minutes. Linda also reported that Joan Sondergaard would be an alternate member of the Village Planning Board.

Trustee Foote moved to accept the appointment of Joan Sondergaard as an alternate to the Village Planning Board, seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Trustee Foote moved to accept Village Planning Board member Linda Carpenter's report as presented, seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Adoption of Minutes

Trustee Foote moved to approve the minutes of the October 28, 2015 regular board meeting as presented, seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Resolutions

There were no resolutions to adopt at this meeting.

Department Reports

Clerk-Treasurer Joe Pizzo reported on electric utility billing for October. Total billing was up from \$82,784.87 in 2014 to \$86,589.72 in 2015 Residential billing was up from \$54,112.31 in 2014 to \$57,241.58 in 2015 while commercial billing was up from \$28,672.56 in 2014 to \$29,338.24 in 2015. Clerk-Treasurer Pizzo also reported on water and sewer late fees for October. Total late fees were down from \$2,758.04 in 2014 to \$2,649.48 in 2015. Late water fees were up only \$49.91 from 2014 and late sewer fees were up by \$158.47 from 2014.

Clerk-Treasurer Pizzo continued to report that the last day to collect taxes in the office was Friday, October 30, 2015. All transfers have been made and the unpaid tax list, which requires signature of all Village Board members, has been sent to the County Treasurer's office.

Clerk-Treasurer Pizzo reported on the health insurance update saying that contact has been made with 2 different brokers and that he has received information on various plans. Clerk-Treasurer Pizzo is now analyzing these plans, along with Mayor Neary and Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Ashley Puro, to see which plan would be the best fit for the Village employees while also considering cost to the Village.

Clerk-Treasurer Pizzo also reported that preparations have been initiated for the election of two trustees on March 15, 2016 by publishing a November 11, 2015 notice in the Times Journal.

Clerk-Treasurer Pizzo reported that he received this year's retirement bill which is included in the bills to be paid from this board meeting. Clerk-Treasurer Pizzo further reported that this year's bill is significantly lower than the budgeted amount, which is based on prior year's estimates.

Clerk-Treasurer Pizzo concluded his report by saying that invitations have been sent out for both the Village Christmas Luncheon, which is on December 24th at 12:00 at Wolfe's Restaurant and the SCVOA dinner, which is on December 12th at 6:00 at SUNY Cobleskill in the Upper Champlin Lounge. This year it will be hosted by the Village of Schoharie.

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 weekly leaf and brush pickup continues. School speed signs were installed and are working. So far, a week of data has been downloaded. He is still waiting for the final plans for the Route 7 project. The GMC dump truck is still being repaired as the mechanic has finally started on it and discovered that the head gasket was bad. Supervisor of Public Works Swartout went on to report that the first step of the firehouse heating upgrade has been completed and should continue with the meeting room heat within a couple of weeks. Mayor Neary said he went to the firehouse and said that the firemen felt that the new system was working well. New tires have been installed on the backhoe. Equipment and manpower has been provided by the Village to roll up 5000 feet of phone line on a Lancaster Development job below Masonville.

Superintendent of Public Works Swartout also reported that the water and sewer plants are working fine and that the aerator is up and running. Superintendent of Public Works Swartout

reported that the Village received a 2014 Water Fluoridation Award from the U.S. CDC. Trustee Foote inquired about the award. The lower reservoir is down less than a foot and the upper reservoir is overflowing. Water meters are back to where they should be following replacements of damaged meters.

Superintendent of Public Works Swartout continued that the Village is still waiting on the DEC inspection report. He received a letter of notification for amendments and renewal of the SPDES Permit. The permit has been renewed with no changes since 1995. This year they are asking us to sample for TDS (Total Dissolved Solids) each month for the next year to see if it needs to be added to the permit in the future.

Superintendent of Public Works Swartout also reported that starting next year the Village needs to file our monthly DMR (Discharge Monitoring Report) electronically with the EPA. This will require Superintendent of Public Works Swartout and Assistant Superintendent of Public Works Eric Jones to be granted Signatory User status by Mayor Neary and Mayor Neary needs to be designated Permit Administrator.

Trustee Hotzler moved to accept the Superintendent of Public Works' report, seconded by Trustee Foote; 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. Mayor Neary added that when Richmondville Power and Light Superintendent Van Deusen meets with National Grid, former Superintendent of Power and Light Bruce Stevens should be included.

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

Code Enforcement Officer Don Clarke was excused but provided a report for board review.

Mayor Neary added that Code Enforcement Officer Clarke is doing a fine job.

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

Fire Chief Dennis Cole was absent.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Neary reported that he called Mr. Peterson in regards to the banning of outside fires and told Mr. Peterson that there is nothing to report at this time. Mayor Neary is reaching out to Bill Freytag from Freytag, Bowman, and Sheedy to set up seminars on electric accounting, Quickbooks and Excel that will take place in the Village Hall with a target date of January 2016.

Trustee Foote moved to accept the Mayor's report as presented, seconded by Trustee Hotzler; 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 #6, seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Attorney Marvin Parshall entered the meeting at 7:12 pm.

Public Comment

Phil Butler said that there was a rumor that the railroad would be double-tracking from Binghamton to Albany. He heard it from the Cobleskill Village Board. Also the railroad asked the Town of Cobleskill to increase the track speed limit.

Executive Session

There was no Executive Session held at this meeting.

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Adjournment

Mayor Neary moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 pm, seconded by Trustee Hotzler; carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Pizzo
Clerk-Treasurer