

The unofficial minutes of the Village of Waterville Board of Trustees regular board meeting held on July 26th, 2021. Minutes to be approved at the next board meeting on Monday, August 9th, 2021.

In attendance: Mayor - G. Ostrander, DPW Superintendent – J. Bechy, Treasurer/Clerk - G. Barnes, Village Attorney – W. Getman, Trustees: A. Briggs, B. Bogan

Not in attendance: Trustees: G. Mortelette and J. Younes, CEO – K. English, Fire Chief – W. Beach

Public in attendance: Michael Simpson, Ashley Olin, Mark Mowrey, Gerald Morton, Anthony Gannon, Representatives from Oneida County Planning Board – Kristen Campbell and James Gerardo

- 7:00 PM Call to Order – Pledge of Allegiance
- Approve the minutes of the June 28th, 2021 Board meeting
Motion – B. Bogan 2nd – A. Briggs Carried
- Approve Purchase Order Requests
Motion – A. Briggs 2nd – B. Bogan Carried
- Approve Audit of Expense Abstracts GEN ABS AND TA ABS 7-26-21, and HO ABS 6-29-21
Motion – B. Bogan 2nd – A. Briggs Carried
- Budget transfer from Fund Balance to A0.5110.200 Streets Equipment in the amount of \$161,000. This amount reflects the \$75,000 received from the Barton Fund and the \$86,000 Bond for the new street sweeper.
Motion – B. Bogan 2nd – A. Briggs Carried
- Budget Transfer from A0.1990.400 Contingent to A0.9710.600 Serial Bonds Principle for \$.40
Motion – A. Briggs 2nd – B. Bogan Carried
- Oneida County Planning Board representatives, Kristen Campbell and James Gerardo, talked with the Board and public regarding the steps that will need to be taken to obtain approval and funding for flood mitigation projects. James Gerardo said that there are currently two projects up for approval by the county for Big Creek – one for the Village of Waterville and one for the Town of Marshall. Once the projects are approved through the Planning Board, they will be submitted to the Oneida County Board of Legislatures for approval in September. The final plan would then go to the State for final approval. Both projects are a 75% / 25% match, meaning the Village would need to contribute 25% of the total project budget and the County would pay the other 75%. However, the Village would need to pay for all expenses up front before the County will reimburse the Village. Kristen Campbell discussed the need for a 9 Element plan. A 9 Element Plan would identify and quantify sources of pollution with the goal of reducing pollution from these sources. An approved 9 Element Plan will open funding sources from state and local agencies to assist the Village with any type of flood mitigation project. The County stressed that project start dates for any approved projects would be at least one year out.
 - Village of Waterville residents, Ashley Olin and Mark Mowrey, questioned the County on the information presented. Mr. Mowrey stressed that projects starting one year from now would not be enough to save the Olin's property from falling further into the eroded creek bank. The County stated that these types of projects take time to implement.
 - Mayor Ostrander questioned the County representatives about the possibility of the County assisting in the formation of an Oriskany Watershed Commission that would comprise of the 16 municipalities located in the watershed. These municipalities include the Village of Waterville, Town of Augusta, Village of Clinton, Town of Kirkland, Town and Village of Madison, Town of Marshall, Village of New Hartford, Oriskany, Village of Oriskany Falls, Town of Paris, Town of Sangerfield, Stockbridge, Vernon, Town of Westmoreland, and Town of Whitestown. To make the commission successful, the County says all municipalities would need to take part.

- DPW Bechy said Joanne Humphrey from Trouts Unlimited submitted a new proposal to him regarding the section of Big Creek behind the Olin's property on Route 12/Sanger Ave. The new proposal would re-route the creek through the Village of Waterville's lower well field located behind the Firemen's Field House. Diverting the creek through the well field would move the creek away from the crumbling creek bank. Trouts Unlimited is currently working on the survey of the area and will be submitting all information the NYS DEC for approval. If the project is approved, work could begin within the next few months. A special permit would need to be approved by the DEC in order to do any work in the creek past Sept. 31. DPW Bechy asked for the Board's approval to move forward with the plan to divert the creek through the well field provided the project gets the necessary approvals and permits.

Motion – B. Bogan

2nd – A. Briggs

Carried

- **Public Participation**

- Michael Simpson, who has submitted the Board with a purchase offer for the Berrill Ave. property, asked if the other interested party has submitted a counter offer and if the Board has made a decision.
 - Village Attorney B. Getman said the other interested party would like the opportunity to speak to the Board at the next meeting on Aug. 9th. The Board agreed to this request.
- Gerald Morton, who lives in the last house going out of the Village on Hanover Rd. He asked if the Village could put in a 30 MPH on Hanover Rd. going out of the Village due to the high rate of speed the cars are going. DPW Bechy said he would put in a sign.

- **Department Head's Reports**

- **DPW J. Bechy**

- The flood mitigation funding from the County that is up for approval is a \$250,000 75/25 reimbursement grant. The Village would need to pay for all project expenses up front before reimbursement would be sent from the County. Trouts Unlimited would be willing to front the money for the project and the Village would reimburse them once the money from the County was received.
- Joanne Humphrey from Trouts Unlimited will be writing a WQIP (Water Quality Improvement Plan) grant application for the Village for Stream Bank Restoration. Ms. Humphrey may be attending a future board meeting to present a power point presentation showing all the areas of concern in Big Creek from Route 12 in the Village to the Village Waster Water Treatment Plant. She states that the cost to make repairs for this approximately 1 mile section could be 2 million dollars.
- Assemblyman John Salka has offered the Village a \$50,000 non-matching grant. The Village would not receive the money for one year.
- The tank at the sewer plant has been taken out of service. It will start back up on Aug. 30th.
- The ultra violet storage building has the frame erected but there was a problem with receiving the steel for the roof and sides. The intake structure pole barn outside is complete but work on the inside still needs to be done. Three new pumps have been installed in the Pump House but more electrical work will need to be done.
- Presented monthly DPW report.

- **CEO K. English**

- CEO K. English was absent for the meeting but Mayor Ostrander presented a zoning complaint to the Board filed by David Upcraft. Mr. Upcraft is filing a complaint against one of his neighbors on W. Bacon St. that has put a shed on his property which extends over the property line onto Mr. Upcraft's property. The issue has been discussed with CEO K. English and has been ongoing for the past 2 years, but the shed owner has not moved the shed or been issued a Notice of Violation. Per Village of Waterville Zoning Ordinance, buildings should be set back 25ft from the property line. The shed is set directly on the property and the overhang is over the property line.

- Village Attorney B. Getman says the Board can authorize Mayor Ostrander as acting CEO to issue a Notice of Zoning Violation with a 30-day remedy.

Motion to authorize Mayor Ostrander as acting CEO – B. Bogan

2nd – A. Briggs Carried

- Treasurer/Clerk G. Barnes

- The Village received the first half of the Covid American Relief Plan Act monies. The check was for \$77,478.31. Prior to spending any of the ARPA money, the Village will need to provide a project plan that is compliant with the Treasury Department's allowable uses. The second half of the ARPA monies will be given in the next fiscal year.

- Village Attorney William Getman - Nothing to present

- Trustee's Reports/Old Business

- Brian Bogan

- The week of July 26-29 is the last week of Summer Rec. The last day will be a fun day with the fire trucks and water balloons.
- Village of Waterville's 150th anniversary will be theme of this year's Cruise-In. The evening events will be a separate celebration to commemorate the anniversary which will be sponsored by the Village. This event will be held at the Firemen's Field House (per approval from the Fire Dept.) and a tent would be erected in the Village of Waterville parking lot. The event would have food trucks and a band. Russell Mason has been asked to create a mural on the building owned by John Brouillette which currently houses the law office of Mark Barnes. The cost of the mural will be dependent on size and could cost between \$7000 - \$9000. The Village would pay for the cost of the mural, band, and tent.

Trustee B. Bogan submitted a motion for the Village to pay up to \$13,000 for mural, band, and tent.

2nd – A. Briggs Carried

- Amanda Briggs

- Provided the Board with sign laws from the Village of Clinton and Hamilton. She asked the Board to review their laws so the Village could start working on what should be included in a new proposed sign law for businesses in Waterville. The purpose of the proposed law is to keep the historic feel of the Village.

- Mayor's Report

- Presented the letter from Village resident asking the Village to opt out of selling marijuana. Mayor Ostrander stated that the Village would need to address the issue soon. The opt out expiration date is Dec. 31, 2021.

- Adjournment, next meeting Aug. 9th, 2021 at 7pm.

- **Motion to adjourn – B. Bogan**

2nd – A. Briggs

Carried

- Meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm

Treasurer/Clerk Signature

Date