

Pledge of Allegiance

PUBLIC MEETING

FEBRUARY 17, 2016

7:00 PM

MAYOR JOSEPH ORLOW PRESIDING

OPEN

2016 SPRING PLANTING BIDS

&

2016 SPRING WATER AND FERTILIZING BIDS

Mayor Orlow stated that the first item to address is the 2016 Spring Planting Bids and the 2016 Spring Water and Fertilization bid.

There were 6 bid packages sent. Two bids were received one from GrassHopper Green and the Planting bid amount was \$6,600.00 and the water and fertilizing bid was \$750.00 and Watkins Nursery planting bid amount was \$7,366.00 and the water and fertilizing bid was \$3,600.00 Attorney Muller, Trustee LaFave and Trustee Carota will review the bids and this will be #1 of the agenda.

PRESENT

Trustee William Hayes
Trustee Anthony Girard
Trustee Timothy Carota
Trustee Edward J LaFave

Brian Abare, DPW Superintendent
Michael Muller, Attorney
David Linehan, P/B Chairman
Kevin Judd, Police Chief

Mayor Orlow then asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the February 3, 2016 Board Meeting. Trustee Hayes moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Trustee Girard and the Board unanimously approved.

Mayor Orlow then asked for a motion to approve the bills audited today. Trustee Girard moved to approve the bills.

FY 2015-2016		FY 2015-2016		FY 2015-2016	
<u>Vourches 91336-91384</u>		<u>Voucher AHC 91305</u>		<u>Voucher 91305</u>	
General Fund	\$18,868.91	AHC	<u>\$9,436.00</u>	General Fund	<u>\$12,750.00</u>
Water Fund	6,665.85	Total	\$9,436.00	Total	\$12,750.00
Sewer Fund	<u>4,660.04</u>				
Total	\$30,184.80				

Seconded by Trustee Hayes and the Board unanimously approved.

Mayor Orlow stated that at this time he would open the meeting for Public Forum to be limited to 5 minutes.

Mr. Thomas Wade was present and asked if the Village could do something regarding the upkeep snow covered sidewalks. The Mayor stated that he has received other complaints on the sidewalks and he will follow up.

Mr. Harry Gutheil was present stated that the January 2015 minutes are still not posted on the Village website. Clerk-Treasurer Danae Bock stated that she will look into it but as she has stated in the past the minutes are always available in printable form through hard copy, e-mail or fax. Mr. Gutheil then asked for the budget timeline and when the budget meetings will be scheduled. Mayor Orlow stated that he and the Board will be scheduling budget meetings in the near future and that thanks to the suggestion of Mr. Gutheil, Department Heads meetings have taken place on a monthly basis; and all department heads have been prudent on how the money has been spent. The Village Board members have been invited one at a time to attend the monthly meeting. Mr. Githeil then asked for an explanation regarding an article that he read on the Village prescription coverage that was recently dropped by the Village Elected Official and the non-union employees. He asked when the cost savings will start for the Village. The Mayor

stated that the savings will start March 1, 2016. He asked about the two coverages for the employees. Mayor Orlow stated that the CSEA script is stated in the union's contracts. He then stated that due to past years of retired health insurance policies, which Mr. Gutheil is aware of having been with the Town of Moreau's insurance plans in the past and present. Not all Health Insurance plans carry a prescription plan attached to them, The current plan the Village has does and therefore elected official and non-union employees chose to save the Village funding by dropping the CSEA prescription plan. Mr. Gutheil feels that this is not a savings to the Village, because there was a cost for both plans (health insurance with prescription and a separate prescription plan). Mayor Orlow then stated that it would be the same as what Mr. Gutheil has done in the past and choosing the right plan for himself between the Town and County. Mayor Orlow explained Mr. Gutheil that the scenario is that same as when Mr. Gutheil was employed by the Town and offered Health insurance though the Town and the County: Health Insurance with one municipality that cost taxpayer's money and a stipend with another for not taking their insurance that is also costing the tax payers money. Mr. Gutheil stated that that there was a big difference because he was working fulltime. Mayor Orlow stated to Mr. Gutheil that if he could understand this correctly Mr. Gutheil was stating that the Town of Moreau Supervisor has more responsibility then the Village Mayor or Trustees. Mr. Gutheil stated yes he had more responsibility as the Town Supervisor then the Village Mayor and the Board. Then the stated that the Village should have already been aware of that and that he put in 60 -70 hours per week in when he worked for the Town. Mayor Orlow stated that Mr. Gutheil's comments were well noted, but that Mr. Gutheil was/is paid compensation and health benefits though the Town and County plus he has a pension benefit. Mr. Gutheil stated that he paid into the pension benefit, and the Mayor agreed and stated that no one is says that Mr. Gutheils current benefits are not

justified. Mr. Gutheil stated that he does not think that a part time employee that has a fulltime job where benefits are offered should be carrying Village health insurance. Mr. Gutheil stated that he has noticed a 17% increase in insurance and he feels that it is costing the Village over \$100,000.00 for elected officials yearly. Mayor Orlow stated that it is not the people that sit on the Board but the fact that these Board members are hired to do a job and regardless of past comparisons made by Mr. Guthiel that being a Village Board part time employee is like being an employee of McDonalds. Mayor Orlow then stated that the employees at McDonalds are or soon will be making \$15.00 per hour, He added if the Village Board members feel that they do not deserve a paycheck they can donate back to the Village as past Supervisor Jenkins did in the Town or if they do not feel that they deserve health insurance they can decline the benefit but at this point the insurances need to be in place to attach individuals that want to better the Village. Mr. Gutheil stated that he disagrees with Mayor Orlow. Mayor Orlow stated to Mr. Gutheil that is he is perplex by some of the things that he says and one of them is that fact that the Village Board's job have no value. So Mayor Orlow asked him why does he feels the need for are all the foil request and time spend trying to find things wrong with the way the Village operates. Mr. Gutheil stated that he is concerned about the Village stability and that he would beg anyone to read the audit report to see how many out of 10 would think it would be a good report. Mayor Orlow stated that this past week he spend 2-3 hours with the audit representative that was here in our building doing a review of the Village books. The representative feels that the Village is doing what they said they would do to set and manage a more balanced budget. One of the biggest concerns was that the building was not secure enough, because Mr. Gutheil was able to walk through the building and introduce himself and then proceed with questions. Mr. Gutheil stated that in the past he has done the same thing. Mayor Orlow then stated that regardless of

whether Mr. Gutheil wrote letters about Village wrong doings and sent them to the audit committee the representative who was present here was to perform a follow-up review. This review which was successful and the Village was complying with the past audit recommendation and the entire review process had nothing to do with Mr. Gutheils letters according to the representative. The audit representative also informed Mr. Gutheil that he has no knowledge of any letters written by him and that he was not in the Village office for a review because of Mr. Gutheil.

Mayor Orlow asked if there was any additional Public Comments.

AGENDA

1) 2016 Spring Planting Bids

Trustee Carota stated that the low bid was Grass Hopper Gardens for \$6,600.00. Trustee LaFave stated that he is concerned about the bid prices and the budget restraints placed on the Village at this time and asked Attorney Muller what options the Village had. Attorney Muller stated that the options are to accept the lowest bid or to reject all bids and start the process over. Trustee LaFave stated that he would like to see revisions made to the bids and ask that the Board support rejecting all bids at his time.

2) 2016 Spring Water/Fertilizing Bids

Trustee Carota stated that the low bid was Grass Hopper Gardens for \$750.00. Trustee LaFave stated that he is concerned about the bid prices and the budget restraints placed on the Village at this time and asked Attorney Muller what options the Village had. Attorney Muller stated that the options are to accept the lowest bid or to reject all bids and start the process over. Trustee LaFave stated that he would like to see revisions made to the bids and ask that the Board support rejecting all bids at his time.

3) Resolution accepting Deed to Tamarac Drive, Wedgewood Drive, Larchwood Drive Roads for Dedication

Attorney Muller read the resolution and stated that the resolution purpose was a requirement from NYS for the roads to qualify as part of the Capital Highway Improvement Project (CHIPS) funding for the Village.

After much discussion regarding the resolution, it was decided that revisions by Attorney Muller will be made prior to Board approval and signature. Once the Clerk-Treasurer receives the revised resolution from Attorney Muller she will put in the Board members boxes. After the Board members sign, please pass it to the next member for signature. Also part of Trustee Carota's report.

4) Survey to Assist in Obtaining Grant/Loan Funding for Water Distribution and Sanitary Sewer Infrastructure

Trustee Hayes stated that sated that this survey is the beginning process for a CDBG grant application. The surveys are being sent out to all residents from New Street to Charles/McHugh Street which covers approximately 450 housing unit. The consultants on the project are Chazen Engineering. He encourages all that receive a survey to complete and return them by March 15, 2016. The promptness of this survey will help the Village in compiling the grant application on time and participation is a big part of obtaining the funding. Trustee Hayes and Trustee Girard have reviewed the cover letter and the survey wording and they feel that it is suitable for the residents. Trustee Hayes also asked the Post Star reporter, Kathleen Moore that was present tonight to include this in her meeting recap report. Trustee Girard stated that he would strongly encourage all that receive a survey to complete it and return it. The returned surveys are a key part of the Village receiving grant funding.

Mayor Orlow stated that after speaking with Carrie Worner at the Moreau Community Center forum prior to tonight's meeting she informed him that there was funding available for such project.

5) Gazebo Request – Michelle Rudd - June 11, 2016

Trustee Carota moved to approve the request; seconded by Trustee Girard and the Board unanimously approved.

6) January 2016 – Financial Statement

Mayor Orlow asked for a motion to approve the Financial Statement. Trustee Girard stated that he has a few questions. He would like to have a projected amount of how much of the \$157,000.00 fund balance will be used in the current budget. The Mayor asked the Clerk-Treasurer, Danae Bock if she would answer Trustee Girard's questions. She stated that at this time she is not sure of what the balance will be or how much will be used. She explained that she has handed out the financial early as requested and has also supplied the Board with a chart that includes 5-years of Village expenditures and revenue. This report was comprised from the audit representative that was here doing a review in the Village office and the figures on the report are from the actual AUD's filed with NYS at year end by the Clerk-Treasurer. Trustee Girard stated that he feels that the Clerk-Treasurer may know of some unexpected expenses. Ms. Bock stated that she would not have any knowledge of any unexpected expenses nor would she have knowledge of the expenses that will happen in the contractual accounts from other departments. She then explained the financial statements will give the Board the information that they are looking for. Trustee Girard stated that he is aware of how to read the financial stated and he has done everything that was just explained. Ms. Bock stated to Trustee Girard the financial statement should allow him to answer his

own questions. She then stated that there is no right or wrong answer with 4 months of expenses and revenue left in this fiscal year and she is not comfortable with answering the question asked of her. Mayor Orlow stated that during the monthly department head meetings it was discussed to spend the basic minimum for each department. Brian Abare, DPW Superintendent and Kevin Judd Police Chief agreed with Mayor Orlow.

Trustee Girard asked again the projected between last year and this year. He stated that the expenses are running high and the revenue is the same. Trustee Carota asked Trustee Girard what his projection was. Trustee Girard stated he does not have all the information needed on emergency expenses and what unexpected expenditures the Village may have. Ms. Bock stated that she has no way of knowing what those expenditures may be, and can't predict unexpected expenditures. Mayor Orlow stated to Trustee Girard that everyone has the same information. Clerk- Treasurer Danae Bock stated the conversation was going nowhere and if Trustee Girard wanted her to say all of the \$157,000.00 will be probably spent then she stated what Trustee Girard wanted to hear and said "probably all of it". Trustee Girard stated alright and that was all he wanted to know and thank you very much. Ms. Bock stated that she does not like going on record stating such a number not knowing if it was accurate and asked Trustee Girard if he just wanted her to say it. He said you answered my question and thanked Ms. Bock again. Mayor Orlow stated there is no way to anticipate the unexpended expenditures such as the current replacement of the Village heating system, and if there is someone that can looking into the future then he would like them to go to the race track because the Village needs revenue. Trustee Girard stated that he feels this is serious and the Mayor agreed. Mayor Orlow then stated that he sometimes feels Trustee Girard plays the Board and that he has offered to sit down with Trustee Girard and try to get him more

involved as part of a team with the Board. Trustee Girard stated that he resents the comment because he feels that he works very hard in his position and cherishes the Village; and he does not lack any effort putting into it. Mayor Orlow stated that was his personal opinion. Trustee Girard stated we agree to disagree and the Mayor stated yes we do.

Trustee Carota moved to approve the financial statement; seconded by Trustee LaFave and the Board unanimously approved.

7) 2016 NYCOM Membership Dues

Trustee Hayes asked if the fee was the same as last year. Trustee LaFave stated yes it is close. Trustee Girard asked if we get our money worth out of it. All stated yes. Trustee Hayes moved to approve the NYCOM Membership; seconded by Trustee Carota and the Board unanimously approved.

8) Accept Summer Concert Series Donation – Francis and Cynthia Hogan

Mayor Orlow stated that this is a concert series donation. Trustee Hayes asked if the Village is soliciting for donations. Mayor Orlow stated that that this no different than the past donations from SCA tissue. Trustee Hayes moved to accept the donation; Trustee Carota seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

9) Fire Company Membership – Kenneth Dickinson

Trustee Carota moved to acknowledge the membership; seconded by Trustee Hayes and the Board unanimously approved.

10) Account Transfers:

Trustee Carota moved to approve the Transfers:

FROM:	G1990.0400	CE	Contingency	\$1,771.75
TO:	G8110.0409	CE	Computer Support	\$1,771.75
*KVS Support Sewer Billing/Updates				

FROM:	FX1990.0400	CE	Contingency	\$1,771.75
TO:	FX8310.0409	CE	Computer Support	\$1,771.75
*KVS Support Water Billing/Updates				
FROM:	G8130.0200	EQ	Sewer Disposal Equip	\$5,000.00
FROM:	G8131.0404	CE	Sewer Disposal Repairs	\$5,000.00
TO:	G8130.0100	PS	Sewer Disposal P.S.	\$10,000.00
FROM:	G8130.0401	CE	Sewer Billing	\$390.00
FROM:	G8131.0404	CE	Sewer Repairs	\$390.00
TO:	G8130.0800	F/M	Sewer FICA/Med	\$780.00
FROM:	A5142.0100	PS	Snow Removal Reg	\$21,530.00
TO:	A5110.0100	PS	St. Maint Reg	\$20,000.00
TO:	A5110.0800	F/M	St. Maint FICA/Med	\$1,530.00

Trustee Girard seconded the motion and the Board unanimously approved.

11) DPW Report – on file

12) Trustee’s Report –

Trustee Hayes – The Phosphate System: Clarification is that Queensbury is not using this chemical in their water, but most or all other municipalities in our area are using it.

All equipment has been installed in our plant and it is ready for operation. It will be online starting tomorrow and the residents need to know that there are no guarantees on how quickly the process will work and some might experience changes that have not had problems in the past. He did then state that it could take 2 to 3 months for noticeable changes.

Trustee Carota – Asked Attorney Muller to revive the previous resolution item #3 of this agenda. Attorney Muller added language to include Local Highway Inventory Listings. Attorney Muller then read the new revised resolution. Trustee LaFave moved to approve the resolution as proposed by Attorney Muller; seconded by Trustee Carota and the Board unanimously approved.

Trustee Girard – Planning Board met on February 3, 2016 to discuss a parking issue. Discussion on comprehensive plan also took place.

Trustee LaFave - None

13) Mayor Report - None

Mayor Orlow opened the meeting back up for Public Forum.

Thomas Wade asked about Item #10 Account transfers 1 and 2. Clerk-Treasurer Danae Bock explained that they were for Water/Sewer update and bill support. They are new accounts and all expenses for support will no longer be taken from her clerical accounts.

Mr. David Linehan asked what changes the residents can expect from the Phosphate System, and if there would be a salt increase in the water. Trustee Girard stated that it will be monitored and tested or the next few months, but it is his understanding that the public needs to be notified that there might be some issue of discoloring water to those that have not had it in the past. There will be a posting on our website and the Post Star reporter is here tonight so she will make sure something gets in the paper.

Trustee LaFave asked Mr. Linehan to please check with his Planning Board members for a missing Comprehensive plan that is usually in his Trustee desk. Mr. Linehan will check with the members. Mayor Orlow again told Mr. Linehan that there was a lap top available in the Trustee office for his meeting use.

At 8:04 PM Mayor Orlow asked to close the Public Meeting Trustee Hayes moved to close the meeting; seconded by Trustee Carota and the Board unanimously approved.

Danae Bock