

DRAFT

Village of South Glens Falls
46 Saratoga Avenue, South Glens Falls, NY12803
December 6th, 2023
7:00 PM

Regular Village Board Meeting

MAYOR NICHOLAS BODKIN PRESIDING

Minutes

Attendance:

Mayor Bodkin
Trustee Gutheil
Trustee Carota
Trustee Girard
Trustee Orlow
Counsel William Nikas

Matthew Espey
TJ Chagnon
Chief Gifford
Kevin Ostrander
Jim
U
Alan Dubois
Dennis Davall
Nick
Payus
R2D2
Kevin Gallagher
Paula Gallagher
Cheryl Lawyer
Tim Pease
Bruce Lant
Colleen Corcoran
Xiaomei Wang
Joanne Schaefer

The Mayor opens the meeting at 7:00PM.

Public Forum:

- a. Dennis Davall asked the Board if there is anything new on the recent dog attack. The Mayor provided he is unaware of anything new for that particular case but the Town of Moreau has hired a Dog Control Officer. Dennis Davall asked about the Police Department hiring more Officers, the Mayor provided the Village is actively reaching out to applicants from the most recent civil service list. Another resident had questions regarding Police coverage and how many Officer positions are open, The Chief provided they are down two full-time Officers and possibly one part timer Officer
1. **22 Main Street, request to waive demolition permit fee:** Kevin Ostrander provided the owner of 22 Main St is working on the demolition and clean up of the property. They now

are in the contract phase and the owner is asking the Board if it is possible to waive permit fee. Counsel provided it is an unconstitutional gift to waive the fee. Xiaomei Wang provided she may incur up to \$50,000 for demolition and cleanup. Trustee Gutheil said he respects counsel's opinion, he is disappointed that the building is not cleaned up yet, the fire happened on May 14th. Kevin Ostrander provided the owner was not given her property until October to be able to remediate and has been actively trying to do so since. Kevin Ostrander and Trustee Gutheil discussed the timeline of events for remediating the property. The Mayor thanked Xiaomei Wang for coming and the Board is unable to waive the fee. Xiamoei Wang provided she is trying her best to remediate the property. Trustee Gutheil sympathizes for the property owner and said he cannot imagine going through something like this and asked when the Village can anticipate the property being cleaned up. Kevin Ostrander provided once the contract is all set it could take about 10 days. TJ Chagnon asked to have the contractor reach out to him. Counsel asked why would the contractor not advance the permit fee and start remediation. Kevin Ostrander provided he is unsure and will put him in touch with the contractor.

2. Grant Projects Update

- a. **Carbon Filtration:** Counsel provided his understanding is two claims have been filed and Jersen has given three offers, the Board needs to make a decision. Trustee Girard asked who stopped the contractor from doing work, the Mayor provided the Village did not and maybe the contractor decided to stop. Trustee Gutheil provided the job should have stopped when the defects were first discovered and there should be heating units in the building by now. This item will be tabled for the Executive Session.
- b. **GIGP:** TJ Chagnon provided he met with Ferguson and they are planning on putting in a conex box. They are also planning on addressing residents who already have meters around January. Trustee Gutheil asked about when a letter addressing the meters will be sent out. The Mayor said the Village will have to have a meeting to discuss the letter. Trustee Gutheil thought a letter would have gone out by now. The Mayor provided he emailed his most recent communication with the engineers. TJ Chagnon provided 120 Water is also progressing, they will need service locations and date built of the homes. TJ Chagnon provided more information on 120 Water's project. A resident provided his concern with the lack of communication with the public and people coming to knock on their door. TJ Chagnon said there will be phone calls and setting up appointments to make it known when they will do work.

3. **Transfers:** **Motion #120623-1** to approve transfers as presented: Trustee Orlow motioned, Trustee Carota seconded. All in favor, except for Trustee Gutheil who abstained. Motion passed.

Discussion: Trustee Gutheil asked about closing on the bond and the Mayor said the final paperwork is coming out in a few days. Trustee Girard asked why more money was borrowed than needed. The Mayor said EFC did not allow the Village to choose the amount borrowed. Trustee Gutheil believes we were told we could change the amount of financing up to the date of closing. The Board further discussed financing and note interest for the Village's current projects. Trustee Gutheil asked why we are not closing on a zero interest loan.

A 1640.407	A 1640.200	\$4,228.00	MOVE HOIST EXPENSE TO EQUIPMENT LINE
A 1990.400	A 1910.400	\$140.90	INSURANCE CONTRACTUAL
FX 1990.400	FX 9730.700	\$1,896.26	NOTE INTEREST

4. **Motion #120623-2** to approve the bills and payroll as audited, pulling the NYS retirement and CPA vouchers. Trustee Orlow motioned, Trustee Carota seconded. All in favor except for Trustee Gutheil who abstained. Motion passed.

Discussion: Trustee Gutheil asked about the retirement plan payment and receiving a discount, he believes not paying early and investing the money is more beneficial.

Trustee Gutheil asked about voucher #489 he believes the invoice does not agree with the contract. Trustee Girard and Gutheil would like the CPA voucher to be itemized. The Board would like to use funds from FX8310.411 for voucher #24000476, water tank inspection.

- a. **General - \$249,961.00**
 - i. **(\$25.00 - Chamber application) - \$249,936.00**
- b. **Water - \$18,303.52**
- c. **Sewer - \$33,979.75**
- d. **Payroll**
 - i. **11/22/23 - \$23,036.18**
 - ii. **11/29/23 - \$5,729.83, \$25,691.58**
 - iii. **12/06/23 - \$23,233.27**

5. **Minutes (11/15/23): Motion #120623-3** to approve the 11/15/2023 minutes as presented, noting clarification on the executive items. Trustee Carota motioned, Trustee Orlow seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Discussion: Trustee Gutheil believes the minutes need more explanation in discussion, specifically the discussion regarding WIIA financing. He also does not approve the items listed for Executive Session.

6. **Motion #120623-4** to table the approval of FastPay at GFNB. Trustee Girard motioned, Trustee Orlow seconded. All in favor except for the Mayor who abstained. Motion passed.

Discussion: The Mayor provided this is a security measure to prevent check fraud. Trustee Girard is concerned it is a third party and would like to have counsel review this, Trustee Gutheil agrees that counsel should review this.

7. **Health Insurance/Dental Insurance Renewal: Motion #120623-5** to renew Silver EX 8000, offer CDPHP Bronze 421HDEPO, offer MVP Silver 8HDEPO, MVP Bronze 6HDEPO. Subject to labor attorney review. Trustee Orlow motioned, Trustee Carota seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Discussion: Trustee Girard asked if it is possible to go to MVP. The Mayor provided it has to be the same to or better to what we had prior. Trustee Gutheil believes the unions should be made aware of the potential change. The Mayor provided we typically offer several plans. Trustee Girard would like to meet with the broker to discuss the options. The Mayor provided there have been some issues with the dental insurance, Trustee Girard supports the change if the employees support it. Trustee Gutheil is okay with any plan that is compliant with the union contract. **Motion #120623-6** to continue offering current plans and Delta Dental Deluxe 300PPO in addition. Subject to labor attorney and

union approval. Trustee Orlow motioned, Trustee Carota seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

8. Main Street Fire Properties: The Board will further discuss this in the Executive Session.

9. PD Server Replacement: Motion #120623-7 to approve the quote for new PD server and maintenance from StoredTech for \$20,636.86 from A1990.400 contingency fund. Trustee Carota motioned, Trustee Orlow seconded. All in favor, except for Trustee Gutheil who voted no.

Discussion: The Mayor provided the PD servers met the end of their life in October and presented quotes for a new server. Four Vendors were reached out to, two were no response and one would not provide a quote if another firm maintained them. Trustee Gutheil will not approve due to only receiving one quote. The Mayor provided we have solicited bids. He also provided the difficulty in having one firm maintain the server and another one provides the server itself. The Mayor and the Chief provided there are errors occurring now and it is important to take action as soon as possible. Trustee Gutheil would like to reach out to other firms.

10. Ferry Blvd Infrastructure: TJ Chagnon provided there have been issues with water/sewer on Ferry Blvd and flushing the hydrants is starting to not prevent the issue as well. He is recommending replacing the lines which is more of a long term fix. He proposed another process but it would only have a chance of being successful. He also suggested Baker Ave as being another road needing replacing of the lines. The length to replace would be 860 to 1,000 feet on Ferry Blvd and TJ Chagnon said they can do it in sections. TJ Chagnon further discussed the issue and how to remediate. Trustee Gutheil suggested having someone from Delaware assist in writing a grant or search for someone who could.

11. Motion #120623-8 to accept and file DPW, PD, Building Inspector/Code Enforcement, and Animal Control Reports for the month of November. Trustee Carota motioned, Trustee Orlow seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Discussion: The Mayor acknowledged Mr. Garnsey for his work on saving money for transmission repair.

12. Old Business:

- a. **Bridge Lights:** The Mayor said we will work with counsel on an RFP for bridge lighting
- b. Trustee Gutheil said we had a resignation for a Health Official and what are we going to do. The Mayor is reaching out to Doctor contacts to fill the position, he is also working on an exact position description to see what insurance coverage the position will have.

13. New Business

- a. **Parking Fines:** The Board received a memo regarding parking fines, no comments at this time.
- b. **Food Truck Laws:** The Mayor said counsel provided Hudson Falls code regarding Food Trucks.
- c. **Fire Department Contract:** This will be discussed in the Executive Session.
- d. **Water Tank:** The Board received a memo regarding the water tank, no comments at this time.

- e. **Property Maintenance Code:** The Board received a memo regarding property maintenance code, the Board will review and discuss at a later date.

14. Trustee Reports

- a. Trustee Gutheil said we received a miscellaneous revenue of \$9,985.88, landfill profit share.

15. Mayor's Report: No reports at this time.

- 16. Bruce Lant addressed the Board on behalf of the Fire Company regarding their contract and cleaning of the bathrooms at the firehouse. He also referenced a spreadsheet the Fire Company gave the Village of their future needs a few months ago, it is now \$400,000-\$500,000 short. He will be back with an updated spreadsheet.
- 17. **Motion #120623-9** to enter Executive Session at 8:41PM to cover carbon filtration, PBA contract negotiations, Fire Company contract, water tank potential damage and action, 156 Main St, and 22 Main St. Chief Gifford requested to address the Board and was invited into Executive Session. Trustee Carota motioned, Trustee Orlow seconded. All in favor, motion passed.
- 18. **Motion #120623-10** to adjourn Executive Session at 9:56PM and reopen the Public Session with no action taken. Trustee Carota motioned, Trustee Girard seconded. All in favor, motion passed.
Trustee Orlow left at 9:15PM
- 19. **Motion #120623-11** to Authorize the Mayor to sign the Fire Company contract as reviewed by counsel. Trustee Carota motioned, Trustee Girard seconded. All in favor, motion passed.
- 20. **Motion #120623-12** to authorize the payment of \$82,000 as stated in the contract to the Fire Company upon execution of the contract. Trustee Carota motioned, Trustee Girard seconded. All in favor, motion passed.
- 21. **Motion #120623-13** to amend part time Police Officer pay rate to \$25 an hour effective January 1st 2024. Trustee Carota motioned, Trustee Girard seconded. All in favor, motion passed.
Discussion: Trustee Gutheil stated the increase is to help with coverage shortage and attract more qualified candidates.
- 22. **Motion #120623-14** to adjourn tonight's meeting at 9:59PM. Trustee Carota motioned, Trustee Girard seconded.