

Village of South Glens Falls  
46 Saratoga Avenue, South Glens Falls, NY12803  
August 21, 2024  
7:00 PM

**Village Board Meeting**

MAYOR NICHOLAS BODKIN PRESIDING

Minutes

**Attendance:**

Mayor Bodkin  
Trustee Gutheil  
Trustee Carota, Absent  
Trustee Girard  
Trustee Orlow  
TJ Wade

Clerk Treasurer Samantha Berg  
Tim Pease  
Attorney Bill Nikas  
Alan Dubois  
CR  
Alex Portal

The Mayor opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

**Public Forum:**

- TJ Wade asked how a Village business gets permission for a sign. Mayor Bodkin stated that the business came to the Building & Codes department for their sign.

**1. Grant Project Update**

**a. Carbon Filtration:**

- i. **RFP/Bid Dehumidifiers:** Engineers have presented a dehumidifier system that is sufficient for the supply that is needed for the humidity issue in the water plant. Trustee Gutheil still has questions that have not been answered in emails before he would like to move forward. TJ agrees with Trustee Gutheil that the Village should make sure all questions are answered and know how much money is being spent before moving forward.
- ii. **Punchlist:** Trustee Gutheil asked if the punch list was done. Mayor Bodkin stated that the engineers are still discussing the things that need attention. Anthony Mantas is setting a meeting to go over the punch list in September. TJ requested that he or Alan, along with a Board member be at that meeting.



**b. GIGP**

- i. Project Update:** Saks was in the Village three days this week and successful with what they got done. TJ Chagnon questioned why residents aren't receiving calls back from Saks when calling to set up a time to get the meter installed. There is a major disconnect between the call center and the people that are out in the field. TJ stated that there is only one installer that has been reaching out to him or Alan when he can't find the meter or understand where the site is. TJ believes this would alleviate the issues with no meter found or simply just walking away from the job.
- ii. Motion 082124- 1 to approve the Disbursement #6 in the amount of \$164,780.17- TABLED**
  1. Ferguson Waterwork - \$114,521.30
  2. Delaware Engineering- \$50,258.87
- iii. Original mailer to be sent out by Counsel:** Trustee Gutheil feels the Village shouldn't be involved in the mailers. It should be the responsibility of the Contractor. Clerk Treasurer Berg feels these mailers are not effective. There are currently 150 Residents not scheduled along with the ones that have been put on pause.
- iv. Motion 082124-2 to approve outside water meter request:** A resident has concerns about having EMF radiation in their home. A meter pit is an option so no one has to read the meter manually. The Board does not need to make a decision about this because it was included in the bid and the meter pit would be in the right of way. TJ detailed how the meter pit would work. The cost should be the same as what was detailed in the bid, \$784.44. **TABLED** to discuss with Anthony Mantas.

**c. Ferry Blvd**

- i. Health Department Response:** Drawings have been given to the DOH and they have responded with recommendations. Trustee Girard is disappointed with the engineering group based on the DOH adjustments they requested.

**Motion082124-3 to enter executive session re: CSEA Negotiations at 7:37pm.** Trustee Orlow motioned, Trustee Girard seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

**Motion082124-4 to adjourn executive session and reopen to the public meeting at 7:47 PM with no action taken:** Trustee Orlow motioned, Trustee Gutheil seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

- 2. Motion 082124-5 to approve the Transfers with an amendment to the FX 1990.400 changed to FX 8340.0403:** Trustee Orlow motioned, Trustee Girard seconded. All in Favor, motion passed.

A 1640.407	A 1640.415	\$1,000.00	DPW Background Checks
FX 1990.400	FX 8310.411	\$930.00	Water Engineering for Ferry Blvd

**Discussion:** Trustee Gutheil asked if the money was coming out of contingency or the FX account. He would also like to know how engineering is going to be handled for the Ferry Blvd project. Trustee Gutheil suggested budgeting for the cost and appropriating the money. Trustee Gutheil would like to know under what Contract are they doing the work, where was the approval given and what account would it be coming from. TJ reminded that water rehab is the account that is supposed to be used for the rehabilitation of the Village infrastructure or purchase. Trustee Girard asked how much money has been spent with Delaware Engineering for the Ferry Blvd project. Clerk Treasurer Berg stated that it's around \$25,000 so far. FX 8310.411 was originally budgeted for \$5,000.00. Contract not to exceed was \$25,730.00.

3. **Motion 082124-6 to transfer \$54,788.43 from NYCLASS to A1640.200 for the bridge lights:** Trustee Girard motioned, Trustee Orlow seconded. Trustees Orlow and Girard, Mayor Bodkin voted yes. Trustee Gutheil voted no. Motion passed.

**Discussion:** Trustee Gutheil suggested that we should not be paying the bill early as we can get \$8.75 a day interest. Clerk Treasurer Berg stated that the Village has already received the fixtures. Trustee Gutheil stated that it has to be paid in net 30. Trustee Gutheil stated he does not understand why we would pay the bill before it's due.

4. **Motion 082124-7 to approve the Bills and Payroll as Audited:** Trustee Orlow motioned, Trustee Girard seconded. Trustee Gutheil abstained. Trustees Orlow, Trustee Orlow, Trustee Girard, Mayor Bodkin voted yes. Motion passed.

**Discussion:** Trustee Gutheil states by the end of the year it's about budget, fund balance, and Tax rates. Trustee Gutheil feels the Board is not concerned at all about the budget, the taxpayers, and investments. Trustee Gutheil again asked for a clarification on some end of the year transfers. Trustee Girard stated that he has an issue with not paying small businesses when we have the item. Trustee Gutheil feels that it will reduce the change of a grant if we pay this. He would like to know if there are any alternatives to Charter Communications. Clerk Treasurer Berg advised there is not at this time. Trustee Gutheil asked why the Village is paying for checks when the banks should be providing them for free. Samantha advised that none of the banks are providing free checks and she has done her due diligence on this matter. Trustee Gutheil asked why our IT costs are so high and we should seek out more vendors.

- a. Water-\$ 9,720.60
- b. General- \$77,160.59
- c. Sewer-\$1,752.17
- d. Payroll-
  - i. 08/07/24- \$24,178.42
  - ii. 08/14/24- \$22,604.89



5. **Motion 082124-8 to Receive and File Monthly Buildings & Codes Report:** Trustee Orlow motioned, Trustee Girard seconded. All in favor, motion passed. **Discussion:** Trustee Girard asked that the mileage be put in every month. Samantha advised she has asked for his mileage twice with no response. Trustee Girard asked that perhaps if she advised the Board is requesting that it be done monthly. Trustee Gutheil said he had been receiving complaints of lawns not being maintained. He would like the CEO to address these things. Trees are encroaching on the sidewalk by the paper mill and the kids are walking in the street to avoid them.
6. **Hudson River Drilling Project:** TJ met with National Grid to outline dates for them to start the project. He is working on signage to reroute the bike trail with the Village's logo. Once TJ has a mock of what the signs will look like, he will share it with the Board. The detour of the bike trail will come up the parking lot to the alleyway, up Fairview St, down to Riverview, across to Fairview Ext., and down Newton St. They want to work with the Board to keep the process moving forward. The Board may want to get insurances and determine what aggregates they are comfortable with. TJ will let them know it is okay to move forward.
7. **36 Charles St, pool charge removed request:** In the past, the Board has requested that there be proof that the pool has been taken down. The resident has to remove the pool in order to remove the charge from their account.
8. **Trees:** The Board passed a resolution that for every tree cut down, a new tree gets planted. Mayor Bodkin asked TJ to look into how many trees have been cut to schedule a time to plant trees in the Fall or Spring. DPW will do it's best to make it happen, but it may wait until Spring due to staffing.
9. **Pro-Housing Community:** Clerk Treasurer Berg went to an HCR Training and reported that NYS is going to start the requirement that in order to qualify for grants that you are a housing friendly community. Anthony Mantas has confirmed the 2 grants right now (Downtown Revitalization and one other) already require this to qualify. The Board should discuss this requirement seriously. The comprehensive plan could address this. Trustee Gutheil and Trustee Girard are concerned that there is no place to do the building but a lot of rehabilitation on properties. Mayor Bodkin would like to invite engineering firms to come speak to the Board sometime in September. Trustee Girard suggested inviting CT Male and LaBella Associates as well as Barton & Laguidice . Mayor Bodkin will be setting up a meeting on September 11th at 6:00 PM with 3 slots 30 minutes each for the engineering companies to give an informational presentation.
10. **Flag Request to Fly the Pride Flag in June for Pride Month:** Mr. Cardinale, from Lower Adirondack Pride, is requesting that the Pride flag be flown under the American and State flags in June for Pride Month. The Board is in full support of this idea and will be making a resolution in the Spring of next year.



**11. Motion 082124-9 to approve the contract for the Moreau Community Center Block Party:** Trustee Girard motioned, Mayor Bodkin seconded. Trustee Orlow abstained, Trustee Girard, Trustee Gutheil, Mayor Bodkin voted yes. Motion passed.

**Discussion:** The Moreau Community Center applied for a permit for a Block party on September 7, 2024, that will need the closure of New St. The insurance is addressed in the application as well as who the responsible party is to notify DPW, PD and emergency services. The Mayor asked that the contract to waive the fees for application for the organization be applied to this situation as well.

## 12. Old Business

- **Water Filters:** Mayor Bodkin circled back to the talks of a solution for the Ferry Blvd water discoloration issue. The Engineer has recommended that each home be installed with a 10-micron filter, while the Village works on the grant applications. TJ raised concerns with this idea, 1) there has to be equal opportunity for all Village residents 2) Who will be responsible for replacing these filters when they need to be replaced? TJ suggested that if a resident is having issues, give the Village a call so that one of them can go flush the line and show the homeowner how to self-flush the line at the house. TJ suggested encouraging residents to even purchase filters for their own homes. It might help. He also mentioned purchasing a large quantity and then allowing the residents to purchase directly for installation themselves.
- **Bridge lights:** Mayor Bodkin asked TJ if he had heard from the technician on the bridge lights. TJ stated that they were working on the schedule and should get back to him hopefully by the end of the week.

**13. New Business: None.**

## 14. Trustee Reports

- **Cleaning of Pipes:** Trustee Gutheil spoke with a contractor from a company in England that has an epoxy that can be sprayed in the line to help with the tuberculation of the pipes. There is a company in Canada that has the heavy equipment that needs to be used for the process. The company is trying to get both the process and the heavy equipment over into the US. Trustee Gutheil mentioned that the next step for the Water/Sewer committee would be to speak with DOH to get approval for a pilot study. For now, TJ will work on getting a sample and doing a video for the contractor.



- **Complaints:** Trustee Orlow stated he has been getting multiple complaints about kids on motorized scooters. The Police Department is handling that situation. Trustee Orlow has reached out to Code Enforcement about campers at the back parking lot of Essity on private property.

**15. Mayor's Report:** None.

**16. Motion 08124-10 to enter Executive session with Alan and TJ at 9:04 PM:** Trustee Girard motioned, Trustee Orlow second, All in favor, motion passed.

**17. Motion 08124-11 to adjourn Executive session and reopen public session with no action taken at 9:14 PM:** Trustee Gutheil motioned, Trustee Orlow seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

**18. Motion 08124-12 to approve a part-time Water Sewer Plant operator at \$25 per hour to work under the supervision of the Superintendent of Public Works and the Chief Water Sewer Operator:** Trustee Orlow motioned, Trustee Girard seconded. All in favor, motion passed.  
**Discussion:** The name of the new hire will be reported out at the next meeting.

**19. Motion 08124-13 to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 PM:** Trustee Orlow motioned, Trustee Girard seconded. All in favor, motion passed.