

Village of South Glens Falls
46 Saratoga Avenue, South Glens Falls, NY12803
September 18th, 2024
7:00 PM

Village Board Meeting

MAYOR NICHOLAS BODKIN PRESIDING

Minutes

Attendance:

Mayor Bodkin
Trustee Gutheil
Trustee Carota
Trustee Girard
Trustee Orlow
Reed Antis
Phil Lindsey
Barbara Gifford
Glen Mulholland

Bill
U
Attorney Bill Nikas
TJ Chagnon
PD Chief Dave Gifford
Alan Dubois
FD Dept Members
Jack Gifford

The Mayor opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Jack Gifford led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Forum:

- Glen Mulholland raised concerns about Ferry Blvd and the water quality he and other residents have been facing for over a year now. The water has become unsafe and has ruined the home appliances. The Board has engaged engineers to explore solutions. DPW is working with the DOH and increased hydrant flushing. TJ stated that the last round of testing showed chlorine levels where they should be. Iron levels are down. DOH suggested turning up the phosphate levels to help with the leveling out of other minerals. TJ will be making an exploratory cut into the pipe to see how much tuberculation there is. Trustee Gutheil spoke with Blake Murphey and hoped to get some prices on the new process for cleaning out the pipe. Blake emailed that there was a problem with getting the equipment into the US from Canada and the agreements. They hope to roll out this process in 2025. Blake suggested other companies to look into to get a jump on the job sooner. TJ was clear that the Board has to make the final decision and make the final decision regarding how to pay for the project. DOH has asked for spec sheets on the new process and they are



favorable. Grants are in process but that of course takes time. Mr. Mulholland asked if the photos from his house have been distributed. He does not feel that the Board is doing enough to rectify the situation. He feels it is unacceptable that this is taking so long to provide clean water.

- The Fire Department wants to know the status of the Fire Department contract. Mayor Bodkin let the Fire Department know that it is on the agenda to discuss. Bill Nikas stated will be setting up a conference with the company and their attorney to move forward.

The Mayor recognized Chief Gifford for his 20 years of service to the Village of South Glens Falls. The rest of the Board also thanked the Chief for his many years of service to other departments as well as in the military.

1. Grant Project Update

a. Carbon Filtration:

- Project update:** GAC media results came back 50%. Engineers are recommending testing at the next point to look ahead of it. The Board is on board with follow up testing for a further level in the vessel. TJ feels that we are 6 months into the year and this would track with being halfway through the media. Trustee Gutheil suggested looking at the budget (FX 8320.404) to make sure the funds are available. Trustee Gutheil noticed that the account had been tight with money. There has been no progress with the punch list on the GAC system. TJ shared that the school is letting the DPW use the man lift to replace the two top air release valves. TJ has the parts being procured through Ferguson and waiting to hear back on pricing.
- Condensation Mitigation:** Anthony Mantas sent specs for a 750 pints per day capacity unit. Trustee Girard asked what would be the cost to upgrade the services to prevent any overload on the system. TJ stated that the water plant would have to be done first, which is very costly. Trustee Girard suggested that this be looked at next year in the budget because of the electrical load on the system.

b. GIGP

- Project Update:** TJ has been reading meters. There are still 80 meters that are installed but still not reading. There were a lot of simple fixes on the punch list that Saks didn't go back or call back when appointments got canceled. TJ has worked on a lot of the addresses still on the punch list. There are still issues with the residents like on Feeder Dam Road that wants to put in a meter pit instead of in the house. Mayor Bodkin stated that the Board decided on the meter pit at no cost at the last meeting. Additional costs other than in the bid should be covered by the resident.



Trustee Girard stated that this should not be done for one and not another resident who may want that. Trustee Girard asked if we had the money budgeted for this type of job. There is \$ 86,292.00 in the available contract under the technical force under the Village. Trustee Gutheil believes that is not what the budget was for. TJ stated that the Village is paying a share of the grant funding, unless the grant comes in before we have to pay out of Village funds. The Village would have to pay a percentage of 25/75. If the project comes in less, the Village would pay less. Trustee Girard suggested the Board get a true number of how many we may need. Counsel sent out a letter to Ferguson and has a meeting with the Ferguson's counsel on Friday. Trustee Gutheil has concerns about the warranty.

- ii. **LSLI:** TJ and Samantha Berg are having a meeting with 120 Water this upcoming week to talk about the letter notifications for the unknown services. 120 Water is getting ready to upload the information. They will give the office a file that the Department of Health requires. There will be a lead line inventory filed with a lot of unknowns. It will be a work in progress and a constantly updating document. As repairs are made, pictures are taken to update. A few meetings will happen between now and then.

2. **Motion 091824- 1 to request a Hydraulic Model from CT Male:** Trustee Girard motioned, Trustee Orlow seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Discussion: The Board would like to get a proposal together. Trustee Gutheil wants to make sure the Board knows where the money will be coming from. The Board would be looking at contingency or appropriated fund balance.

Motion 091824-2 to retain CT Male as General Engineer and Grant Writer contingent on a retainer agreement approved by the Board: Trustee Girard motioned, Trustee Orlow seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Discussion: Trustee Girard recommends that CT Male should be considered. CT Male has a great grant writer. TJ asked that the Board select an engineer that will work with the DPW and their knowledge of the infrastructure. Trustee Girard asked for clarification as to when the Board can engage the new engineers in regards to the current pending projects.

3. **Motion 091824-3 to approve the Bills and Payroll as Audited:** Trustee Carota motioned, Trustee Orlow seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

- a. General - \$20,886.08
- b. Water- \$19,564.36
- c. Sewer-\$1,988.02
- d. Payroll-
 - i. 09/4/24- \$21,766.41
 - ii. 09/11/24- \$27,159.68

Discussion: None



4. **Motion 091824-4 to approve the hiring of a DPW employee as an MEO subject to favorable background check and drug screen:** Trustee Girard motioned, Trustee Orlow seconded. All in favor, motion passed.
Discussion: None

5. **Letter of No Objection:** West Coast Asset Package Management Company LLC has a Cannabis processing license with New York State in Wilton. In addition to the license, the company is allowed to open a store within 25 miles of their current location. They have found a store in Midtown plaza. They are looking for a Letter of No Objection to being filed with the Office of Cannabis Management. Counsel asked if this has been presented to the Board. The Board could refer to the Planning Board for site plan review, the Board can make a decision based on that.

6. **Old Business**
 - a. **Bridge Lighting:** Nothing new to report.
 - b. **Museum Placard:** Reed Antis stated that a lot of people have reached out about the Post-Star article. Grant Hayes volunteered to make the sign for the Village Museum. Mr. Hayes shared with the Board some options that can be used like plywood or vinyl weatherproof material. The cost for non-branch metal for a 15"x10" plaque would be \$150 for materials. If selecting a brass metal plaque, it would be \$300 just for materials. The Board collectively agreed to the HDPE plywood sign with the look of the original sign. Mr. Hayes has offered to donate his time to make the sign and just charge for the materials. The furnace has been serviced, checked over, and cleared. The guest book has seen 75 signatures since June, which is great. Reed suggested some amendments to the traffic pattern for the concerts.
 - c. **Porta Potty for Tree Lighting:** TJ got a quote for the tree lighting of \$120. The company will drop it off the day before and service it for the following day of use.
 - d. **Auditors:** Trustee Gutheil asked for a status update on auditors. Mayor Bodkin confirmed that the auditors will be in the office on October 21-23.
 - e. **Website:** Trustee Gutheil stated that the website may need to be looked over again. There is still a former employee with his picture on the website.
 - f. **A request for a letter:** Trustee Gutheil stated that he sent an email in regards to the residents who received the delinquent notice by a glitch in the system. He had not gotten a follow-up to it. He is requesting to see the letter that was sent to residents.
 - g. **Minutes:** Trustee Gutheil stated the office staff is way behind on minutes and it is very hard to keep track of discussion when not posted promptly.
 - h. **Financials:** Trustee Gutheil brought up employee contributions of medical insurance, it seems the percentage doesn't match. He doesn't want to be



surprised if employees who have the coverage are paying the wrong amount.

- i. **Voucher #205:** Trustee Gutheil asked if the Board was aware Mary Mackrell has retired. Trustee Gutheil stated on the September 4, 2024, meeting that the bill be pulled due to no details on the invoice. Trustee Gutheil asked for the status of the bill and why it was not back on the agenda for the meeting tonight. Trustee Girard suggested that if Mary is no longer available then the Board should find someone else to do the work.

7. New Business

- a. **Police car:** The Police Department is receiving a new car. Mayor Bodkin wanted to discuss what to do with the old car that will be replaced: Keeping it for PD or sending it to Auction. Mayor Bodkin suggested looking into the car becoming a municipal car for Buildings & Codes that puts high mileage on personal vehicle when he makes his rounds. Trustee Gutheil feels this would be more of a cost to the Village than just paying mileage. Dave suggests that the PD keep the vehicle to use. Trustee Gutheil believes they should just send it to auction and get what they can for it. Trustee Girard suggested finding out how much the insurance is and what the maintenance costs might be.

8. Paint selection for the Gazebo and Tree planting at the Gazebo

- a. **Paint Selection:** Bill Ramsey shared that the Gazebo has been primed and is ready to paint. TJ requested going a shade darker to help update the look. There is \$10,000 budgeted for the project and only a little over \$100 in with the primer and materials needed. TJ suggested if we are going to get volunteers to help, we should have a waiver.
- b. **Tree Planting:** The Mayor and Bill Ramsey suggested the possibility of planting some blue spruce trees as well for the tree lighting. An electrical outlet could be installed by the Bridge Lights contractor to supply electrical for the tree lights.

9. **Trustee Report:** Trustee Girard stated that the committee is still working on Ferry Blvd. Things are moving slowly.

10. Mayor Reports

- a. Mayor Bodkin shared that the AIM Disbursement was received. Sales Tax Distribution is on track and mortgage tax is holding steady. Trustee Gutheil mentioned that the Village's portion of sales tax went down, but the Town went up.

11. **Motion 091824-5 to enter Executive Session to discuss FD Contract negotiation and performance and history of unnamed person or persons and firms at 8:59 PM:** Trustee Carota motioned, Trustee Orlow seconded. All in favor, motion passed.



12. **Motion 091824-6 to adjourn Executive session to public session with no action taken at 9:15 PM:** Trustee Orlow motioned, Trustee Carota seconded. All in favor, motion passed.
13. **Motion 091824-7 to adjourn the meeting at 9:16 PM:** Trustee Orlow motioned, Trustee Carota seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

