

Village of South Glens Falls
46 Saratoga Avenue, South Glens Falls, NY12803
October 2nd, 2024
7:00 PM

Village Board Meeting

MAYOR NICHOLAS BODKIN PRESIDING

Minutes

Attendance:

Mayor Bodkin
Trustee Gutheil
Trustee Carota
Trustee Girard
Trustee Orlow
Cheryl Lawyer
Nick Havens
Tim Pease
Bill
U

Clerk-Treasurer Samantha Berg
Deputy Clerk Treasurer Shawna Clark
Attorney Bill Nikas
TJ Chagnon
Alan Dubois
TJ Wade
Bruce Lant
Eavesdropping
CR

The Mayor opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence for the families impacted by the hurricanes in North Carolina and Florida.

Public Forum

1. Grant Project Update

a. Carbon Filtration:

- i. **Project Update:** There has been an issue with the contractor in regards to the quality of the painting that was done. They will have to come back and redo the painting. Parts for the low-pressure valve have been ordered. We have not received the test results back for the last round of PFAS testing.



ii. **Condensation Mitigation:**

1. **Motion 100224-1 to get RFP from CT Male to review condensation and proposal for mitigation:** Trustee Girard motioned, Trustee Orlow seconded. Trustee Gutheil, Trustee Carota, Trustee Orlow, Trustee Girard yes, Mayor Bodkin no, motion passed.

Discussion: There was no resolution at the September 25th, 2024 meeting. The Board would like to engage CT Male with an RFP request. Trustee Gutheil believes that if the Board is going to engage CT Male, there needs to be funding in the account. It was clarified that the first step of the contract is to get quotes for the service. There are concerns about the electricity needs of the new plant and it being able to handle the needs of the plant.

a. **GIGP**

- i. **Project Update:** TJ and Samantha have worked extremely hard to pull the data together. Many items were incomplete, making it difficult to process or prepare the Water/ Sewer billing. This was a direct result of the project status. The Mayor relayed that the Clerk's Office is almost ready to issue the bills. Residents are normally given a 31 day window to make payment. He would like to adjust the window based on when the billings are made. Trustee Carota suggested that the Clerk's Office just adjust the window based on the date the bills are issued. Clerk Treasurer Berg was given permission from the Board to adjust the window as needed. The data that came from the contractors was erroneous and additional work needed to be done in order to gather all of the information needed to issue the bills. Trustee Gutheil stated that it should be made clear that the delay in billings is because Ferguson was late in completing the contract and the properties that were asked to be completed first were not done in that order. TJ suggested reading meters 3 to 4 times a year and advised it takes a full day to collect the readings. He is trying to find a route that works best to collect the readings. Trustee Gutheil is concerned about the length of the warranty. Trustee Girard asked if the extra work being done by employees could be recouped by the Contractor and not be part of the grant. Mayor Bodkin advised that there is money in the force account in the grant. If Village employees are doing work that would be part of the contractors, then it would be reimbursable from the contractor because they receive the benefit. There is also the penalty clause of the contract.
- ii. **Motion 100224-2 to install two-meter pits in the conflict location, with the additional cost to be paid by the owner.** Trustee Girard motioned, Trustee Orlow seconded. Mayor Bodkin,



Trustee Girard, Trustee Carota, Trustee Orlow yes. Trustee Gutheil no, motion passed.

Discussion: The contract includes the meter pit at the cost of \$750.00 with additional cost to be covered by the resident. There are currently two residents looking at the option of having the meter pits installed. Trustee Gutheil states that it should depend on each case and it depends on the situation. The reasoning for the meter pits was concerns of EMF within the home and safety of the installers with the pets in the home. Trustee Gutheil feels that the Village should be assured safe access to the home to install the meter.

- iii. **Motion 100224-3 to have the Mayor sign the Davis-Bacon and Document Collection Form:** Trustee Orlow motioned, Trustee Girard seconded. Trustee Gutheil abstained, Trustee Orlow, Trustee Girard, Trustee Carota, Mayor Bodkin yes, motion passed.
Discussion: None

b. Ferry Blvd:

- i. **DOH Discussion:** The Department of Health reviewed the project and came back with the request to extend the project for the additional 500ft remaining of the line. Delaware Engineering also agrees with what the Department of Health recommends. If the Grant is awarded for the project, the Village will have to look into the modification of the grant application to include the 500 ft. Delaware Engineering feels that the grant application would be eligible since the request is being generated from the DOH. Trustee Guithiel suggested that the Village should have CT Male do the 500 ft. The Board supports that the 500 ft be added to the scope of the project. The Village will contact the DOH to let them know that the Board would like to go forward with the 500 ft being added to the scope of the project based on the quote from the new engineers.
- ii. **Current status of mitigation and plan to move forward:** TJ had a lengthy discussion with American PipeLine Solutions that can come in and do mechanical pigging. The quote that was given to TJ was roughly \$92,000.00 and they are available to start the project in November. The project of the cleaning would be 2300 ft to the valve and if they went to the corner it would be 2800 ft. Trustee Girard stated, with Board approval, that TJ works with CT Male and the Water/Sewer Committee on the project. Trustee Girard suggests that the money be taken off from fund balance. It could end up being more than \$92,000.00. Trustee Gutheil suggested trying to get away from the per diem rate and lock into a rate with a not to exceed. The engineers could meet with the water/sewer committee and any board members to get this project moving.



American PipeLine Solutions would like to know ASAP to move forward for November. The Village would be responsible for the digging, shoring of each hole, and leapfrogging roughly every 500 ft to dig excess to the pipe. Trustee Gutheil mentions that American PipeLine can also do 4-inch piping so maybe this is something they need to look into for Baker Ave. Mayor Bodkin states this also needs to be done through procurement. Trustee Girard believes this is an emergency and surpasses the procurement stage. He would rather accept the penalty from OSC and provide clean water to the residents. Counsel advised that, according to case law, this would not qualify as an emergency. Trustee Girard feels that the Board has taken too long to provide clean water to the residents involved. Counsel suggested getting CT Male to draft the bid, and the specs, and then publish in a suitable time frame. Counsel advised that the delay in the decision making has made this project fall out of emergency status. However, ultimately the Board makes that decision and will have to live with the consequences. Trustee Girard stated, for the record, that he disagrees with Trustee Gutheil, Mayor Bodkin, and Counsel and feels that the Board has a responsibility to the residents to provide clean water. This has been going on for 2 years and it should not have been. AWWA has already given their endorsement on lining water lines with the new technology. Mechanical pigging of the pipe will remove the tuberculation as best it can and allow us to flush the line successfully. TJ suggests going back and lining the pipe to protect it. Trustee Girard reminded the Board that with the grant, it would be approximately 400K while this new process would be about 125K. It's a smaller amount for the taxpayers to pay. The Board will ask CT Male to advise if they can turn around an RFP and bid by the end of the month.

2. **Motion 100224-4 to approve the Bills and Payroll as Audited:** Trustee Orlow motioned, Trustee Carota seconded. Trustee Gutheil no, Trustee Girard, Trustee Orlow, Trustee Carota, Mayor Bodkin yes. Motion passed.
- a. General- \$39,815.87
 - b. Water- \$4,373.88
 - c. Sewer-\$2,332.91
 - d. Payroll-
 - i. 09/4/24- \$21,606.10
 - ii. 09/11/24- \$27,819.92

Discussion: Trustee Gutheil will not be supporting the motion due to a bill for insurance on a former employee. There is no authorization in the contract to be paid and the Board continues to pay every month.



3. **Motion 100224-5 to receive and file monthly Animal Control, DPW, and PD monthly reports:** Trustee Gutheil motioned, Trustee Orlow seconded. All in favor, motion passed.
Discussion: None
4. **Motion 100224-6 to authorize the Mayor to sign the Engineering engagement agreement with CT Male:** Trustee Girard motioned, Trustee Orlow seconded. All in favor, motion passed.
Discussion: None.

Motion 100224-7 to move \$50,000.00 from Water Fund Unappropriated Fund Balance to Water Engineering (FX 0915.0000 to FX 8310.411): Trustee Girard motioned, Trustee Orlow seconded. All in favor, motion passed.
Discussion: None

5. **Downtown Revitalization Committee :** Businesses have expressed an interest in different parcels of properties and the rehabilitation of existing parcels to improve the revitalization of our downtown area. The committee would consist of Trustees, local businesses, and the chamber to take on the task of identifying parcels of land that are vacant and in need of revitalization. It would also help decide what projects would be important and part of the Village's comprehensive plan. This committee would report to the Board periodically. The Board can then ask the engineers/grant writers to help achieve the revitalization. This would benefit the community greatly. The Mayor has spoken with someone from SCA Tissue and there is currently no parcel under contract at this time. It is currently still on the market. Concerns about the pending assessment challenge, the Board may want to consider rezoning the areas that have been zoned for industrial use. Redevelopment would greatly benefit the Village. It is everyone's understanding that the site has been decommissioned to the point that a paper mill would have difficulty moving into the site. The Board should run the committee as a whole and work with local businesses and residents. Cheryl Lawyer feels that this needs to be addressed, especially as you look at what's been done across the bridge. She also feels that local businesses would want to be a part of this.
6. **Motion 102524-8 to install a whole fire department generator transfer switch:** Trustee Orlow motioned, Trustee Girard seconded. All in favor, motion passed.
Discussion: TJ advised that the Village followed procurement by selecting a responsible firm to provide maintenance on the generator. The vendor stated that because the fix they made did not work, he is willing to credit the repairs made and move forward with replacing the generator as a whole. He feels this is the most responsible option for the taxpayers.
7. **Water/ Sewer Billing:** Discussed under GIGP Project Update.

8. Minutes Status Update: Audio recordings are all up to date and posted. Written Minutes will be available for review at the next meeting.

9. Personnel Updates

a. New Employees

- i. Heather Runnalls- DPW
- ii. John Rosati- Per diem Water Sewer Operator
- iii. Gavin Holligan- DPW

10. MS4 Filing: TJ and Sam have worked together and filed the MS4. There is a training next week for site inspections for Buildings & Codes specifically.

11. 23-24 AFR Filing: Clerk Treasurer Berg has completed the filing of the AFR and it is available for the public's review in the Clerk's Office.

12. RFP for AGFTC Route 9 Corridor Study: The Board has previously discussed the traffic study. The AGFTC has narrowed the scope of the study down to the Route 9 corridor. The Mayor would like to draft a request for a grant to specifically study the zones around the schools as it requires a deeper look for student safety. The route 9 study will include all of the Village's portion of Route 9. The state DOT is currently studying route 9 due to paving of Route 9 in the spring as well as improving pedestrian safety. The cameras currently mounted are to count the number of people using the crosswalk to determine how much they are used. The Mayor stated that AGFTC is really pushing that the traffic study be used by the municipalities involved. They would rather not waste their money. Trustee Girard asked for clarification regarding motorized skateboards.

13. Old Business

a. Dispensary: The Mayor advised the Board that Mr. Schachner advised that this does not meet the requirements of review of the Planning Board. The decision is made by the Buildings & Codes department.

b. Fire Department Contract: The Mayor provided that the old contract was authorized by the Board to be signed and the payment made. Counsel will send the authorized contract to Fire Department Counsel. There should be a meeting involving all of the attorneys regarding the joint district.

c. AMP Energy Update: Andrea is getting the information from National Grid to move forward.

d. Museum Placard Update: None

e. Bridge lighting: To be done tomorrow. DPW will be contributing some labor to defray some of the cost to the taxpayers. Adirondack Thunder banners will be going up tomorrow as well.



f. **Lead Service Line Inventory:** The Clerk's Office has met with 120 Water. The questions have been answered and we seem to be on target to file on time. TJ explained that in the event the Village cannot determine if a line is/is not a lead line, the notices have to be sent regardless. Clerk Treasurer Berg advised that 120 Water does offer a service of mailing the letters at the cost of \$2.14 per notice. They will handle the entire process of the mailing.

i. **Motion 100224-9 to engage 120Water to send the required letters of notification to residents with unknown service lines with a notice with a not to exceed \$2500.00.** Trustee Carota motioned, Trustee Orlow motioned. **VOTE NOT TAKEN**

g. **FD Flooring:** Trustee Orlow will work on the flooring.

14. New Business

a. **Motion 100224-10 to authorize the Mayor to sign acceptance of grant award to install an ADA compliant restroom at the top of the Betar Byway:** Trustee Gutheil motioned, Trustee Orlow seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Discussion: The Mayor thanked Saratoga County for the grant. TJ asked for a timeline that the install needs to happen. Clerk Treasurer Berg advised that they allow for October of the following year, with quarterly status updates in the event it is not completed by then. Mayor Bodkin will start the research for the building and the pad requirements.

b. Trustee Gutheil asked for a status on the Medicare medical insurance renewals. Clerk Treasurer Berg advised that the notice the Board was given was received directly from the carrier and not from Upstate Agency. Upstate has not received the information from the carriers just yet for 2025 renewals.

15. Trustee Reports: None

16. Mayor Reports

a. Thank you to all of the volunteers for all of their hard work sanding and repainting the gazebo.

b. The new police car has arrived. Radios will be programmed. He would like the Board to be prepared to discuss next steps for the old car for the next meeting.

17. **Motion 100224-11 to enter Executive session to discuss inviting in Water Plant Operator to discuss water plant operations and potential employee benefit impacts and a notice from the DOL at 8:42 PM:** Trustee Carota motioned, Trustee Orlow seconded. All in favor, motion passed.



18. **Motion 100224-12 to adjourn Executive session with action taken at approx 9:00PM.** Trustee Girard motioned, Trustee Orlow seconded. All in favor, motion passed.
19. **Motion 100224-13 to adjourn the meeting at approx 9:05 PM.** Trustee Orlow motioned, Trustee Carota seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

