



VILLAGE OF SAUGERTIES
43 PARTITION STREET
SAUGERTIES, N.Y. 12477

Village Board Meeting Minutes February 18, 2020

Present: Mayor Murphy, Deputy Jeannine Mayer, Trustees Don Hackett, Terry Parisian, Jeff Helmuth, Vince Buono, Supervisors Mike Hopf, Eyal Saad, George Terpening, Mike Marino, Chief Singara, Chris Wade, Ed Quirk, Dave Gordon

Mayor Murphy called the Village Board Meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Mayor Murphy requested **Deputy Mayor Mayer** to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Privilege of the Floor - **Robert Gallenz** requested to address the Board. Mr. Gallenz read a thank you note he wrote to the Police, and the Fire Department regarding a fire incident on Lafayette Street November 4th. He felt everyone performed like clockwork with great team work to avoid disaster.

Mayor Murphy presented the Village Board Minutes from February 3, 2020. Trustee Hackett made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2020 Village Board meeting. The motion to approve the minutes was seconded by Trustee Buono. The motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Buono presented the Abstract for February 18, 2020:

- **General** \$ 72,711.65
- **Water** \$ 10,444.12
- **Wastewater** \$ 6,559.01

The AUDS are complete through 2019.

Trustee Buono made a motion to approve the Abstract for February 18, 2020. The motion to approve the Abstract of February 18, 2020 was seconded by Deputy Mayor Mayer. The motion carried unanimously.

Reports

Mike Hopf presented his report for the Water Department. See attached report.

Seven companies submitted bids for the chemicals for the Town and Village Water and Waste Water Departments. The sealed bids were open on Thursday February 13th. The bids are made per chemical, not all companies bid on all the chemicals. Seven companies sent in bids and four companies won the bids for nine chemicals. The bid tabulation is included.

Trustee Hackett questioned if the prices increased from last year. **Mike Hopf** confirmed that the prices had gone up from the previous year.

Trustee Helmuth made a motion to approve the chemical bid tabulations for the Water and Wastewater Department as presented. Deputy Mayor Mayer seconded the motion to approve the chemical bid tabulations for the Water and Wastewater Department as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

The water and sewer departments are seeking approval of an increase to the quarterly rates for the next five consecutive years. The 2% increase would begin on August 1, 2020. The proposed rates and amounts are presented on the revised graph attached. Revised due to typo.

A recent article in the Daily Freeman mentioned a local water district raising their rates by 25%. Their rates had not been changed in 10 years. The Village increase of 2% over the next 5 years is to avoid having one large increase.

At the previous Board meeting, **Trustee Parisian** was concerned about the burden the rate increase may cause on the fixed income residents. **Mike Hopf** had produced reports of all 1475 users, 244 are

minimum users. Of the minimum users, some are small business, vacant or weekend houses and it is hard to pinpoint which minimum users would be fixed income or have difficulty with an increase.

Trustee Parisian questioned if the increase should be higher for the out of town users and eliminated for the in Village residents. The cost to out of village users and the three Town water districts, Barclay Heights, Kings Highway and Malden was discussed. The Town contracts are currently being negotiated and due by August. The original contract with Town would have to be amended if any changes are to be made.

Mayor Murphy and Trustee Buono suggested that the 2% rate be approved for a one year increase and revisit it after the Town contract negotiations are done.

Mayor Murphy made a motion to approve a one year 2% rate increase for water and wastewater to take effect August 1st, 2020 and to be renegotiated next year after the Town water district contracts are complete. Deputy Mayor Mayer seconded the motion to approve a one year, 2% rate increase for water and waste water to take effect August 1, 2020 and to be renegotiated next year after the Town water district contracts are complete. The motion carried unanimously.

Eyal Saad presented his report for the Building Department. See attached report.

Eyal provided a copy of the Stormwater Management Program Plan SWMP/MS4 report he completed. The plan is required by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation – SPDES permit. The link to the plan will be forwarded to the Board for review. The MS4 law was in place since 2007 and the plan is required to implement the law. The plan needs to be adopted by April 6th.

Trustee Parisian mentioned that there is a 2020 government SIREN grant program for funding fire equipment. **Eyal Saad** stated that Mike Karashay is currently working on grants for archive storage and electric charging stations. Renovation upgrades to the storage rooms and climate control are part of the achieve grant along with inventory. The Building Department had received an archive grant in the past for scanning their files.

Mayor Murphy stated that the Arm of the Sea will be using the Village as lead agency for their grant application for the Tidewater Center.

Chief Wade presented his report for the Fire Department. See attached report.

Chief Wade asked if there were any questions about the new ladder truck and requested a decision to be able move forward with pricing. The price has increased since the Fire Department has been looking at it since June. **Trustee Parisian** is wondering how the truck will be financed. **Mayor Murphy** stated that if the Village committed now to ordering the truck, it would be a one and a half year build time and the first bill would not be payable until 2022. It would allow two years to work the payment into the budget. Previously the Village had had a Capital Equipment Fund for large purchases. **Mayor Murphy** suggested that a new Capital Equipment Fund for the Fire Department be created this year and the goal would be that there would be enough in the fund to make the first payment. The proceeds from the sale of the old truck would be added to the CEF. **Trustee Parisian** stated that he would like to see more fund raising towards the purchase of a million dollar truck. **Trustee Hackett** stated that the payment would be approximately \$60,000 per year for 15 years and that the fire truck purchased four years ago had been paid off early.

Chief Wade added the Village's ISO rating is affected by the equipment that the Fire Department has. There is a possibility that the Village residents homeowners policy premiums may increase due to the Fire Department's equipment being so old and lack of fire protection.

Mayor Murphy, Chief Wade and Trustee Buono will be meeting with Paula regarding the Fire Departments budget and will bring back info to Board.

Chief Wade stated that Garrison Equipment will not give a set price until there is a decision on whether or not the Village will be using Sourcewell or not. The Board agreed that the use of Sourcewell would be a good choice to secure the price, save on fees and eliminate the bidding process.

Mayor Murphy made a motion to use Sourcewell, if the Board approves the purchase of the ladder truck. Trustee Parisian seconded the motion to use Sourcewell, if the Board approves the purchase of a ladder truck. The motion carried unanimously.

It will be three weeks before the proposal will be received from Garrison. Additional fund raising and grants will be looked into.

Mike Marino presented the reports for the Wastewater Department. See attached report.

The RBC has been inspected by a representative from Darlington Co. and a price was submitted. One more estimate from Benson Steel is expected. One is a new system and one is rebuilt with a difference of \$75-\$80,000. **Mayor Murphy** inquired as to rotating the RBC's while the crane would be at the plant. **Mike Marino** said it is a possibility to be done with 2 sets of the 4. A discussion regarding rotating the working RBC's continued. The DEC is aware of the RBC being repaired. Any changes to the operation of the plant would need new permits. **Trustee Hackett** stated Mr. Benson will be submitting a proposal for the scope of work and an estimate for rebuilding the RDC shaft. **Alex Wade** added that Mr. Benson had rebuilt the original RBCs. **Trustee Hackett** said that the gear box is being replaced with a new one for \$30,000 with a guarantee. The cost of the gear box had already been in the budget.

Trustee Buono questioned what the overtime expense was for. **Mike Marino** stated that there is plant overtime and collection system overtime and it is a combination of call outs for repairs, emergencies and or snow removal. **Trustee Hackett** would like an email with the exact details for the overtime expense.

George Terpening presented his report for the Buildings, Parks and Grounds Department. See attached report.

Rich Forbes presented his report for the DPW. See attached report.

The large tree on Finger Street that had caught fire from the power lines will be taken down this week as long as the bucket truck from Richer's Electric is available. **Mayor Murphy** stated that DPW usually doesn't get the opportunity to do tree work in the winter and they have a good handle on the pot holes. **Trustee Hackett** thanked them for doing a great job with taking the tree down on Montross Street.

Alex Wade - See the attached report for Special Projects.

The last payment for the Bluestone project has been made. The final close out papers will be submitted once the project is 80% done. The project came in under the project price.

The Teetsel Street sewer replacement project is hanging over the Village if and when the property there is developed.

Chief Sinagra presented his report for the Police Dept. See attached report. The yearend report had been forwarded previously to the Board. No questions.

March dates are being set up for NARCAN training classes. Another training exercise will be held with the Sawyer Savings Bank Mortgage center.

The NYCOM resolution has been presented to be considered for approval. The resolution addresses the criminal justice bail reforms that have recently been passed by the state. The new reforms pose several problems for the police and courts.

- Judges don't have the discretion regarding the dangerousness of the individual
- Personal information of witnesses and informants are available to defendants and attorneys after 15days under the new discovery laws
- Discovery timeline is too short to gather evidence
- Cost of the unfunded mandates are too expensive for Police Departments and Courts

Chief Sinagra and several other police chiefs met in Albany with Senator Shontell Smith to discuss the new reforms. They expressed their concerns regarding the new reforms jeopardizing lives.

Locally a victim of a stabbing will no longer testify against the individual who stabbed him because he fears for the safety of his family. The new reforms requires a special application for an Order of

Protections for witnesses, which had been previously automatic. The court will consider it and the defense has an opportunity to debate it. This will have the public fearful of cooperating with the police. The resolution is a memorializing resolution letting the Governor, Senate and Assembly representatives know that we care about the safety of our community and know that this new bail reform is jeopardizing the safety of our community.

Trustee Helmuth questioned the where in the resolution is the statement regarding the Judge's discretion for the dangerousness of the individual.

Chief Sinagra will make an amendment to the resolution to include the statement regarding the desertion of the Judges.

Resolution

Mayor Murphy presented Resolution #5 – Requesting Amendments to NYS's Criminal Justice Reforms

Mayor Murphy made a motion to approve Resolution #5 with the additional amendment. Deputy Mayor Mayer seconded the motion to approve Resolution #5 with the additional amendment. By A roll call of the Trustees was 6 yes votes, 1 absent. Motion carried.

Trustee Buono – nothing new to report.

Trustee Parisian- nothing new to report.

Trustee Helmuth - nothing new to report.

Trustee Hackett - nothing new to report.

Deputy Mayor Mayer presented her report.

- Thank you for recent approval of the emergency LEANS system for TV23
- Thank you for assisting Patrick Wadden with the Arm of the Sea grant and being Lead Agency
- The Chamber of Commerce street art event to sponsor an artist is at Bella Luna March 1st 4pm. All are invited. Friends of the Public Library will receive the funds this year. The next Chamber meeting will be at lanelli's Photo Studio February 26th. A special Chamber meeting in May will honor Village business that have been business for 50 years or more.
- The comments for the Comprehensive Plan have been forwarded to everyone for review.
- Saugerties Historical Society is asking for financial support for their community projects. **Trustee Hackett** recommended \$500 be included in the budget for the Historical Society. **Mayor Murphy** stated he thought that there was already funds budgeted. **Mayor Murphy and Trustee Buono** will check before the budget is finalized to make sure there is an item for the Historic society and TV23.

Trustee Parisian reported that the Ulster County Chamber mixer is at Diamond Mills on Thursday, February 27th.

Trustee Hackett made a motion to adjourn the Village Board meeting, seconded by Trustee Helmuth. The motion carried unanimously. The Village Board Meeting adjourned at 7:06.

Next Village Board meeting is Monday March 2, 2020 at 5:30 pm.

Lisa Mayone

Village Clerk

Filed February 21, 2020