



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

Village Board Meeting Minutes September 8, 2020

Due to COVID19 pandemic and the Governor's Executive Order 202 regarding open meetings, this meeting was held via Webex. Connection information was broadcast online for residents to participate.

Present: Mayor Murphy, Deputy Mayor Mayer, Trustees Vince Buono, Terry Parisian, Don Hackett, Jeff Helmuth, Brian Martin **Others:** Paula Kerbert

Mayor Murphy opened the Village Board meeting at 5:30pm.

Mayor Murphy led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Privilege of the Floor – no one was on the Webex meeting to address the Board.

Mayor Murphy presented the Village Board Meeting Minutes from August 17, 2020.

Trustee Terry Parisian made a motion to approve the Village Board Meeting Minutes from August 17, 2020. The motion to approve the minutes from August 17, 2020 was seconded by Trustee Buono. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Buono presented the Abstract for September 8, 2020:

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| • General | \$ 131,130.96 |
| • Water | \$ 29,941.24 |
| • Wastewater | \$ 18,533.86 |

Trustee Buono stated that the abstract is higher due to the annual general insurance renewal which is divided among the departments.

Trustee Hackett made a motion to approve the Abstract for September 8, 2020. The motion to approve the Abstract for September 8, 2020 was seconded Trustee Parisian. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Reports

Jeff Helmuth-Nothing new to report.

Jeannine Mayer

- Comprehensive Plan Committee has distributed the updated version of the plan for comments. The next meeting will be September 21.
- Artists Association is working on promoting art in the community, policies and setting up a data base of artists. The next meeting will be September 25.
- Chamber of Commerce member Stew Fox resigned from the Board.
The bids for the butterflies a now being accepted online with a credit card. The auction will be online on October 18th. There is an area to make a donation to Diaz ambulance as well as a bid. The loyalty shopper cards for Village and Town merchants have been distributed and can be picked up at the Village office, M&T Bank and the public library.
The sunset concerts have finished for the season.

- The Direct Energy contract is coming up for renewal in January. The rate we pay now is 2.67 and forecast for 2.388 in February for the adjustable rate. The representative has been contacted regarding streamlining the billing process which is very cumbersome.

Trustee Martin- reported that the Fire Department's boat sank due to a pump malfunction during the recent rain and windstorm. Seatow brought it to land. Sue Horton from Reis Insurance has been working with Travelers regarding the claim.

The lift on the areal truck needed to be replaced and is now back in service.

George needs to look at several repair items at the Fire houses.

Trustee Hackett reported that the Wastewater Department had some flooding in the office due to the rainstorm. There had been flooding at several homes on West Bridge Street also.

The RBC is scheduled to be replaced at the end of September or the first week of October.

The odor complaints are being addressed by working with Mike on a solution. The odor seems to be generated from the main digester but to be determined.

Two people have been hired parttime to operate the harvester. **Mayor Murphy** added that the parttime employees relieves the DPW from having to man the harvester.

Trustee Parisian reported that the DPW was working on a sinkhole on Post Street due to a sewer line collapse over the weekend. The job was complicated due to gas, water and sewer lines all in the same area. The street is being fixed and paved today.

Vince Buono-Nothing new to report.

Mayor Murphy informed the Board that he has been contacted by a local contractor, Roger Hummer, who is looking to do some community outreach. He has recently done some work for the Mt. Marion Firehouse. He was wondering if the Village had any projects that he could help with. After meeting with him, he has agreed to sandblast and paint the fire escape on the back of Village hall. We had recently gotten an estimate for the job at \$10,000 and now it will be done for free. The fire escape is one of the last projects for the Village Hall that needs to be done desperately. Very pleased.

The Village was very busy this Labor Day weekend. There two bands performing this weekend in the Market Street parking lot and the Partition St and Russell Street parking lot. People were wearing masks and social distancing. Bob Sircusano has plans for more bands every other weekend to help keep the Village businesses busy.

Treasurer Paula Kerbert spoke regarding the Superior Telephone Systems proposal for an office phone system. The office is in dire need of a good phone system. There is no longer a support system. People calling in have been having problems with extensions. It difficult to leave phone mails and messages. The proposal includes a state discount. The new system would be plugged into the current framework. The cost would be split between the departments. Superior Telephone works with our computer support company, Hudson River Technology.

Trustee Hackett asked whether or not the phones would be for the office, court and fire department and include the wastewater. Paula stated that the phone system would be for the office, court and fire house. Twelve phones would be used among the departments.

Trustee Helmuth asked if the system was a voice over internet protocol? Paula had consulted with Eyal regarding the voice over internet and Eyal had suggested not to use that type of system, so this system is not voice over.

Trustee Parisian stated that the need for a new phone system had not been brought up during the budget process and was not included in the new budget. We are currently on an austerity budget and are not purchasing anything unless it absolutely effects the operation of the Village. He has not had any complaints from residents regarding the phones. It is the first time hearing about this and have never had an issue calling the office. Trustee Parisian would like to see one or two more quotes to compare pricing

before a decision is made. Paula stated that this is a discounted rate through a state contract. She will get additional quotes for the next meeting.

Mayor Murphy questioned if there is a savings with this new system as opposed to our current system. Paula stated that our current phone system is paid for and there are no monthly charges. This is a onetime upgrade fee. The proposal will be tabled until the next Board meeting.

Trustee Parisian presented Resolution #9 – 2019 F550 1 ½ ton Dump Truck

The DPW is replacing the current 1 ½ ton dump truck that is costing a lot to repair. The old truck would not last in a snowstorm. The new truck had been considered in the budget.

The Resolution #9 was seconded by Trustee Martin and roll call resulted in 6 yes votes. Resolution #9 unanimously approved.

Trustee Parisian presented Resolution #10 – 2020 Elgin Street Sweeper

The DPW is replacing the current 20 year old street sweeper. The sweeper lease payments will be paid through the CHIPS program.

The Resolution #10 was seconded by Mayor Murphy and roll call resulted in 6 yes votes. Resolution #10 unanimously approved.

Clerk Mayone reminded the Board that the rescheduled **Village Election will be held on Tuesday, September 15th from noon-9:00pm in the firehouse.** Trustees **Buono, Hackett** and **Parisian** are on the ballot for a 2 year term. Thank you to the Fire Department for use of the firehouse to provide social distancing for voters and inspectors.

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 6:00 pm.

The Village Board meeting is Monday September 21, 2020 at 5:30 pm via Webex.

<https://villageofsaugerties.my.webex.com/join/bmurphy>

Lisa Mayone
Village Clerk
9/10/2020