



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

Village Board Meeting Minutes December 21, 2020

Due to the 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 Supervisors: Eyal Saad, Mike Hopf, Mike Marino Others: Alex Wade, Paula Kerbert, Bill Kemble, Susan Murphy, Marcus Arthur

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

Mayor Murphy led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Privilege of the Floor

Susan Murphy addressed the Trustees regarding the Community Choice Aggregation plan that had been presented to the Village Board at the last Village Board meeting. She inquired if a decision to join had been made. **Marcus Arthur** also commented that the CCA is a good thing, a win-win situation and encouraged the Board to go ahead with the project.

Mayor Murphy stated that he has some concerns regarding the part of the program where residents are automatically included and must opt out. **Trustee Hackett** also had the same concern.

Susan Murphy stated that letters would be sent to all residents as part of the CCA's outreach program. The program administrator would be responsible for the time and expense of the outreach to residents informing them of the program. **Trustee Parisian** is concerned that the sample four-page letter is too lengthy for residents to read fully. The letter needs to be very clear as to what they are being signed into.

Mayor Murphy will discuss the CCA program further with the Trustees and Town Supervisor Costello before anything definite is decided. Two weeks is not enough time to consider whether to participate in the program.

Mayor Murphy presented the Village Board Meeting Minutes from December 7, 2020.

Trustee Parisian made a motion to approve the Village Board Meeting Minutes from December 7, 2020.

The motion to approve the minutes from December 7, 2020 was seconded by Trustee Helmuth.

All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Buono presented the Abstract for December 21, 2020:

- General \$ 34,418.97
- Water \$ 146,684.33
- Wastewater \$ 13,161.46

Trustee Hackett made a motion to approve the Abstract for December 21, 2020. The motion to approve the Abstract for December 21, 2020 was seconded Mayor Murphy. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Reports

Eyal Saad – Report attached.

The recent snowstorm has caused issues with un-shoveled sidewalks. The code states that residents have 24 hours after the cessation of the storm to have the sidewalks cleared. The DPW has been helping with clearing those sidewalks that are not shoveled and the charge will be added to the resident's tax bill.

DPW is overburdened with the snow removal on the roads and clearing out the business district.

Mayor Murphy stated that he has received positive feedback from business owners.

Mike Hopf reported for the Water Department. The Water Department is working on repairing a break on a 6-inch water main at Washington Avenue and Montgomery Street down to 10 Dock Street. There is a steep embankment filled with rock and rubble that they are still working on getting through to get to the break. Bigger equipment is needed to continue. The leaking water has been routed by a small ditch to a storm drain to avoid Dock Street from getting icy.

Westech was at the water plant to startup the new prefilter. The performance test had to be rescheduled due to test equipment delay.

Mike Marino – Report Attached.

Alex Wade – Report attached.

Chief Chris Wade – Report attached.

Trustee Reports

Trustee Helmuth – Nothing new to report.

Trustee Parisian reported for the DPW. Report attached. The DPW crew did a great job cleaning the Village of the snow. Thank you to the Town DPW for the help with plowing.

Trustee Buono - Nothing new to report.

Trustee Hackett reminder residents to clear the snow away from any fire hydrants that are near them. The resident's cars being off the street for overnight parking helped for a successful snow removal.

Trustee Hackett mentioned that does not like the opt out part of the CCA program.

Thank you to **Mayor Murphy** for delivering the Christmas gifts and toys to needy families.

Mayor Murphy stated that the toys were delivered to the families that were not able to pick up the toys at the giveaway on Saturday. **Mayor Murphy** credited Sawyer Motors and First Responders Organization for organizing the toy and food giveaway and stated that Saugerties is lucky to have them working in our community. Over 400 families received car loads of gifts, toys, food and wrapping paper. It is truly appreciated by everyone and there are plans to make this a yearly event. Thank you to all.

Deputy Mayor Mayer

- Thanked the Mayor, Sawyer Motors, Bob Siracusano and the First Responders Organization for the toy give away. It was amazing. It was a pleasure to help with the distribution. The Police and Macy Siracusano volunteered their time to make deliveries to those families that could not pick up the toys. It was very much appreciated by everyone.
- Thank you to DPW for taking the club side down for replacement.
- The Chamber of Commerce Holiday Party was virtual last week. The Annual Community of Saugerties Award went to the entire community of Saugerties instead of an individual. Patrick Wadden presented a slide show and spoke to the Chamber regarding funding for the Arm of the Sea's Tide Water Center project which is in the planning and development stage. Barbara Bravo will be leaving after this month so there will be an opening for a Board member.
- The Climate Smart and CCA programs are to be determined, if we don't join in, the Town will get the benefits of the discounted program and the Village residents won't get the same savings.

Mayor Murphy complimented the Board members and the community for the tremendous job done during this challenging year due to the COVID pandemic, Black Lives Matter movement, virtual schooling and closings. The Mayor is very proud of the community and impressed with the relationship with the Town to improve services. 2021 will hopefully be better.

"Thank you for your hard work and support. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year."

Trustee Hackett made a motion to adjourn the December 21, 2020 Village Board Meeting seconded by Trustee Helmuth. The motion carried unanimously. The Village Board Meeting adjourned at 6:17pm.

The next Village Board meeting is Monday January 4, 2021 at 5:30 pm via Webex.

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