



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

Village Board Meeting Minutes October 1, 2018

Present: Mayor Murphy, Deputy Mayor Mayer, Trustees Jeff Helmuth, Don Hackett, Vince Buono, Terry Parisian, Alex Wade, Ed Quirk, Bill Kimble, Dave Gordon, Z Willie Neuman, Bob Gallenz, 6 High School government students

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

Mayor Murphy requested students **Jaclyn Murphy, Kaylie Collins and Shy Curless** to lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Privilege of the Floor

Robert Gallenz addressed the Board regarding the burnt out property at 18-20 Russell Street and the October 5th inspection. He would like to know when to expect results from the inspection? **Mayor Murphy** explained that the Village is working with the insurance company and lawyers before anything can be done. Mayor Murphy stated that the Village wants it down as fast as possible and the goal is to get it down before the winter.

Willie Neuman addressed the Board regarding the painting of a mural on the top and bottom panel of the Speedy Mart convenient store. He would like to paint positive images of ball players, children, families and dancers. Willie stated he has permission from the property owner. **Mayor Murphy** thought it is a wonderful idea. He advised Willie to apply to the Historic Review Board for approval.

Willie mentioned that he noticed the water chestnuts are growing more in the still water than water that moves or rushes. He suggested that the damn be opened to allow the water to move and get the chestnuts out.

Mayor Murphy stated that the damn belongs to John Mullin and that Mr. Mullin would have to get DEC approval before opening up the damn. **Mayor Murphy** will check with John Mullin.

Willie also stated that there is a hazardous condition at the end of the exit from the parking lot to Russell Street. There is a gigantic bush that blocks your view when pulling out into the street.

Mayor Murphy stated that the building inspector has sent a property maintenance violation letter to the property owner.

Mayor Murphy presented the Village Board Minutes from September 17, 2018. Trustee Buono made a motion to accept the minutes of the September 17, 2018 Village Board. The motion to approve the minutes was seconded by Trustee Hackett. Motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Buono presented the Abstract for October 1, 2018:

- General \$ 45,981.62
- Water \$ 7,739.52
- Wastewater \$ 11,880.38

Trustee Hackett made a motion to approve the Abstract for October 1, 2018. The motion to approve the Abstract for October 1, 2018 was seconded by Trustee Parisian. The motion carried unanimously.

Alex Wade reported that there is only one bidder on the Bluestone Sidewalk Project. The state analysis of the bid probably will take 3 or 4 weeks.

The EV charging stations report was discussed. Some of the companies involved in the charging stations have gone out of business. The usage has been free but will be converted to pay for use very shortly. See attached report.

Trustee Parisian informed the Board of a new employee hired for the DPW department to take the place of Jacob Dodd. Joseph Rutella will be starting work on October 8th pending the results of the pre-employment drug screen scheduled for this morning.

Trustee Hackett questioned the hiring before approval from the Board. **Trustee Buono** agreed that it had been discussed previously that new hires would get Board approval before hiring.

Mayor Murphy made a motion to approve the hiring of Joseph Rutella for the Department of Public Works pending the results of the drug screen. The motion to approve the hiring of Joseph Rutella for the Department of Public Works pending the results of the drug screen was seconded by Trustee Parisian. The motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Parisian stated that the position had been posted internally, with no interest and that several other candidates were interviewed before the decision to hire Joseph Rutella was made. He will be on a three month probationary period. There will be another position open in the DPW department once Supervisor Rich Forbes is off his probationary period.

Trustee Helmuth reported on the parking lot law revision. He has heard some negative feedback.

Trustee Hackett stated he received two emails from residents that are against lifting winter parking ban based on the article in the Kingston Freeman.

Mayor Murphy stated that the changes in the parking law was not originally brought up by the Board. The Mayor would like to keep the parking laws the way they are and only add to it a way to ticket cars left in parking lots for extended periods of time to be addressed individually.

A discussion continued regarding ways of addressing the abandoned cars that may be in the Village lot.

Trustee Helmuth will contact Village attorney Ben Neidl regarding wording and implementation of an amendment to the current law.

Trustee Helmuth reported that there is a conference for members of the Waterfront Advisory Board and will discuss attendance with Alex Wade.

Deputy Mayor Mayer reported

- Chamber of Commerce meeting was held at the Esopus Bend where the new pavilion was dedicated.
- Sailing Around Saugerties sailboat raffle results will be discussed at the Chamber meeting on October 3rd. There will be a discussion regarding the Visitor's Center.
- The dedication to the mural on M&T back will be 4:30 Thursday Oct. 4th. Mayor Murphy to speak.
- The Mum Festival October 7th – 12-5pm. The Mum Queen and Court will be crowned at the Mum Bowl football game at 3pm on Saturday. The Queen is Becky O'Dell, court – Fiona McGregor and Kenzie Carter.
- The next Town Board meeting will be approving the Town and Village members to the Comprehensive Plan. Mary Frank and Ed Quirk will be presented to the Board as Village representatives.

Mayor Murphy made a motion to accept the nomination to Mary Frank and Ed Quirk to the Comprehensive Plan Committee. Trustee Buono seconded the motion to accept the nomination to Mary Frank and Ed Quirk to the Comprehensive Plan Committee. The motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Buono had nothing new to report.

Trustee Hackett reported that he has been reviewing the Drug and Alcohol Policy. The current policy is based on a plan from 1996. There needs to be updates made to the policy. The policy states that all safety sensitive duties be tested. We have a choice to put all positions and job titles or keep it the way it is now. **Mayor Murphy** stated that All CDL holders and then either all employees or none. We can't pick and choose. **Trustee Hackett** stated that the policy requires all supervisors to have a training class and all employees are required to sign an acknowledgement form.

Trustee Parisian questioned when the tests are administered, at hiring, randomly and in case of an accident.

Village Clerk Mayone asked if all departments are to be included in the policy, would it also include the volunteer Fire Department. Discussion regarding the inclusion the Fire Department would work.

Ed Quirk stated that if the fireman were to be drug tested, the Village Trustees should be tested too. A discussion continued regarding who should or shouldn't be included in the testing.

Mayor Murphy stated that we need to address the Fire Dept. separately because it is an all-volunteer department. We would have to check the legalities of testing volunteers. Each test costs \$50, so the cost of 40 additional tests is a responsibility to address.

Mayor Murphy read an email he received from the homeowners at 90 Dock Street. They were thanking the Fire Department for their speedy and professional response to a fire they had at their home today. They were making a donation to the Fire Department.

Good job Fire Department!

Mayor Murphy referred to the response from the Village attorney regarding the Montross Street vacant lot auction. The property had been deeded to the Village by the previous owner. According to the wording in the 40 year old deed, *if the property ever ceases to be used for a public purpose, title will revert back to the grantor.* Finding the original grantor maybe a problem.

Trustee Helmuth and Hackett both suggested that the village keep the lot. A possible use would be the electrical car charging stations.

Trustee Helmuth made a motion to not sell the Montross Street/ Partition Street vacant property.

Trustee Hackett seconded the motion to not sell the Montross Street/Partition Street vacant property. The motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Hackett made a motion to adjourn the Village Board meeting, seconded by Mayor Murphy.

Motion carried unanimously. The Village Board Meeting adjourned at 6:18 pm.

Next Village Board meeting is Monday October 15th, 2018 at 5:30pm in the Village Office.

Lisa Mayone

Village Clerk

Filed October 10, 2018