



VILLAGE OF SAUGERTIES

43 PARTITION STREET
SAUGERTIES, N.Y. 12477

**Village Board Meeting
Minutes
August 19, 2024**

Present: Mayor Murphy, Trustees: Don Hackett, Brian Martin, Andrew Zink, Vince Buono, Terry Parisian

Others: Paula Kerbert, Ed Quirk, Bill Kemble, Dave Gordan, Brian Donahue, Robin Goss, Mike Campbell, Dave Radanovich

Absent: Jeannine Mayer

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

Trustee Hackett led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Privilege Of The Floor

Brian Donahue asked about the lamp post that was destroyed on the corner of Partition Street and Main Street. Mayor stated he is following up with the Police Department, and they have driver information. Mayor asked about the rainstorm, if it flooded or did the water level went down.

Regular Session

Trustee Parisian made the motion to approve the Village Board Meeting Minutes from August 5, 2024. Trustee Buono seconded the motion to approve the Village Board Meeting Minutes from August 5, 2024. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Buono presented the Abstracts for August 19, 2024.

- General \$ 56,183.92
- Water \$ 18,433.17
- Wastewater \$ 32,520.10

Trustee Buono mentioned the Central Hudson bills, Paula explained they are looking into the payments / credits versus actual invoice is what is currently being paid. General Graybar, Bonded Concrete will be taken out of the general and posted under the non- equipment bond. Discussion on expenses with Wastewater, chemicals, Central Hudson.

Trustee Martin made a motion to approve the Abstracts for August 19, 2024. Trustee Hackett seconded the motion to approve the Abstracts for August 19, 2024. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Parisian, asking about Sass Electric, it was for the Fire Extinguisher inspections for the entire building.

Mayor Murphy updated Text MyGov, working with the Town Supervisor, Fred Costello they passed using it on Wednesday night. The Town is providing the Village with a year to use for free. Mike Campbell stated that the two separate plans with total would have been \$18K per year, only 175K txt transmission. Combined it will \$12K with 500K text transmission. We will review in a year, to continue and contribute. Thank you, Mike Campbell, for the valuable input, who reached out to other communities who are currently using it, and they are wild about it.

Treasurer Report – see attached

Discussion, Mayor Murphy explained how he got in touch with March Gallagher last week, who gave him contact information to the NYS Comptroller's office.

Trustee Zink requesting to contact New York State Comptroller's office to have them come into the Village of Saugerties Office to perform an audit for free, he wants to go on record for the request to be made.

Trustee Hackett – Ulster County Finance Department Software in 2025, request making a motion. Trustee Zink making the motion to accept the moving forward with the Ulster County Finance Department Software in 2025 for the discounted price by signing up now. Trustee Hackett seconded the motion to accept the moving forward with the Ulster County Finance Department Software in 2025 for the discounted price by signing up now. All in Favor. Motion carried.

Trustee Parisian – I heard the end of Latham Circle was sold, do we get any of the back taxes, Paula said the Village will get it in October, not all of it but we will get something. Nothing to report.

Trustee Zink – thanked Paula for getting the requested financial material for him. I made scans of all of it, if anyone else wants copies. The Village has 13 bank accounts, so I am submitting a revised request for all 13 bank accounts. M n T Bank is the main bank. Trustee Hackett asked about who the signers, Paula Kerbert and Mayor Murphy are, both are bonded, both can move money. Mayor Murphy discussing a third signer.

Trustee Hackett – asked about the wastewater smell, Dave Radanovich, Mike Hopf and Joe Myers have been great, the plant has issues that need to be resolved. Mayor Murphy asked to keep an excel spreadsheet to note when the smells are stronger than others. Dave, my worries at accepting new haulers, can it handle it. Trustee Hackett stated that the upgrades are coming. Eyal Saad, is working hard on the harvester. We met with the Tree Commission; Kevin Brown will be part of that board. Mayor Murphy and Trustee Hackett went to the Partition Street Pollinator garden, it was fantastic.

Trustee Martin – Nothing to report

Mike Karashay was elected Firefighters Association of the State of New York

Mayor Murphy brought up Chief Mason, Cody Rocco covered for two weeks, would we be willing to promote 2nd assistant chief, the bylaws state the course has to be completed. Mayor Murphy wanted to thank by Cody Rocco.

Trustee Buono – Transportation Committee meeting – Leeann brought up on Overbaugh street, going North there are trees blocking, if they were town trees? Jorge was there speaking about speed in the Village, address that with KJ. Mayor Murphy suggested to have a public hearing to change the Village Saugerties, to 25 MPH. Streets in the Village milling and paving, John St., Lafayette Street, Irving Place and Warren Place. Signage inventory to be taken asked Rich.

Mayor Murphy makes the motion to consider the change of the Village Speed limit to 25 MPH. Trustee Parisian seconds the motion to consider the change of the Village Speed limit to 25 MPH. All in favor, the motion

Trustee Parisian coming out to Partition Street, you cross the yellow lines by Josies, the no parking signs have been removed, with the cars parked it's difficult to stay in the lane. Mayor Murphy will contact Dave about the signage and the lines.

Trustee Hackett made a motion to Adjourn the Village Board Meeting. Trustee Zink seconded the motion to Adjourn the Village Board Meeting. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:29PM.

The next **Village Board meeting is September 3, 2024, at 5:30PM**

Peggy Melville Village Clerk

August 23, 2024

TREASURER'S REPORT

August 19, 2024

I submitted all the paperwork for this quarters CHIPS reimbursement. We will be receiving \$47,858.84 on September 17, 2024 via ACH payment.

We received our first ever check from Ulster County for back taxes owed for a parcel. The parcel owed taxes back to 2018. The check was for \$4,338.90, which included all penalties.

I received a letter from the Ulster County Finance Department about new tax collection software coming in 2025. If we sign up now for it the county will pay for the license and also pay the first year of maintenance/support. After the first year we only have to pay for the support part of it and the cost will be \$135/year. If we don't sign up now, we would be responsible for the license and the support at a cost of \$3,995.00 for the license and \$595.00 for the support. The county will draw up an intermunicipal agreement for us to sign for the software and support. If the board is ok with this I will move forward. The software will be county wide, meaning at anytime anyone with the program can see the tax information. The processes will be streamlined and, in some cases, obsolete like the delinquent tax files I have to send every quarter.

I just received 2 Worker's comp bills for January. One is for the Village and 1 is for the Saugerties volunteer fire. They are going up this year approximately \$700 each. The reason being the interest rate on the reserve and our assessed tax valuation and claim loss experience relevant to the entire claim. We didn't have any claims last year.

Mayor Murphy, Village Clerk and I contacted the State comptrollers Office as suggested at the last Village Board meeting. We spoke with the Deputy Comptroller, Robin Lois, who put us in touch with someone that would be contacting us.

The history of the Village's path to the Financial Stress Score was explained to Ed Burgess, Chief of Data Operations. Ed was asked why the Village was

not notified of the Financial Stress Score prior to the results being posted on the State Comptroller's website? Ed informed us we should have been, and we stated we were not. Ed apologized and stated will make sure that does not happen again. Ed advised there are webinars that come in the early part of next year we can attend, and we will. We will know our Financial Score as the year moves along, we have obtained the template for the scoring. Also, we asked why the score of 2022 was not filed, the numbers are there but the filing was late, and they do not go back and upload a score. So, moving forward Ed was very helpful, offered contact with his office with any questions or concerns.

This is the Village's Plan moving forward to Financial Stress Recovery:

- Increase Village Taxes
- Increasing the Village's Fund Balance
- Decreasing spending
- Communication with State Comptroller's Office / Webinar
- Self-monitoring our Financial Stress Score

Paula Kerbert

Treasurer