



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

## Budget Public Hearing and Village Board Meeting Minutes May 4, 2020

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

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

**Mayor Murphy** led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**Mayor Murphy** stated that the 2020-2021 Budget Public Hearing has remained open for comment since April 20, 2020. The Public Hearing was reopened at 5:30pm.

**Public Hearing comments-** There were no comments from the public on the Webex call or any written comments submitted regarding the proposed 2020-21 Village Budget.

**Mayor Murphy** made an announcement regarding the recent article that stated there was an increase to the 2020-21 Village taxes. The article was incorrect, the actual rate went down. The tax rate has decreased by 19% over the last ten years. The spending went up due to unrealized revenue and contractual reasons not to increase in taxes. There is a freeze on spending for now due to the COVID19 pandemic.

**Mayor Murphy made a motion to close the Public Hearing for the 2020-2021 Village Budget. Trustee Parisian seconded the motion to close the Public Hearing for the 2020-2021 Village Budget. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.**

**Mayor Murphy** opened the regular session of Village Board meeting at 5:43pm.

**Privilege of the Floor -** No one on the Webex call requested to address the Board.

**Mayor Murphy presented the Village Board Minutes from April 20, 2020.**

**Trustee Buono made a motion to approve the Village Board Minutes from April 20, 2020. The motion to approve the minutes from April 20, 2020 was seconded by Deputy Mayor Mayer. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.**

**Trustee Buono presented the Abstract for May 4, 2020:**

- General \$ 41,405.75
- Water \$ 10,060.58
- Wastewater \$ 7,172.01

**Trustee Hackett made a motion to approve the Abstract for May 4, 2020. The motion to approve the Abstract of May 4, 2020 was seconded by Deputy Mayor Mayer. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.**

## **Trustee Reports**

**Trustee Parisian** had nothing new to report.

**Trustee Martin** reported that the Fire Department is working on a FEMA grant to get reimbursed for COVID19 supplies. Thank you to Peter Neckos and his staff of Saugerties Pharmacy and Bob Sircusano for masks that were donated to the Fire Dept.

**Trustee Hackett** had nothing new to report.

**Trustee Hackett** questioned **Chief Wade** if the ladder truck had been out of service. **Chief Wade** stated the ladder truck had been out for service to the the ariel and chaisis for 3 days or so.

**Trustee Hackett** had been reveiwng response times for mutual aides to alarms when the ladder truck is out of service. **Chief Wade** stated that the repsonse time for the Town of Ulster would be approximately 12-15 minutes. **Trustee Hackett** suggested that a decision should be made on the new ladder truck before the current pricing runs out.

**Mayor Murphy** stated that the response time data is important information to consider. The current price is valid until June 1, 2020. The build time is approximatley 1 year and the first payment would not be due until 2022. Two payments could be in the bank before the first payment is actually due. **Mayor Murphy** requested the Board to be ready to make a decision on the purchase of the ladder truck by the next Board meeting. If the Board members have any questions contact **Chief Wade** or **Trustee Martin**.

**Trustee Buono** had nothing new to report.

**Trustee Helmuth** had nothing new to report.

**Deputy Mayor Mayer** reported

- The Chamber of Commerce meeting via Zoom will be Wednesday May 6th . The street artwork will be discussed.
- On Monday May 18th, the Comprehensive Plan Committee will be reviewing the revisions for the first 40 pages via a teleconference to be determined.

**Mayor Murphy** informed everyone that the harvester has been delivered and it is at the North Street Garage. Diver Z is going to meet with **Rich Forbes**, **Trustee Hackett** and himself at 9am tomorrow morning to go over the operation and instructions for the harvester. John Mullen will be invited as well. Anyone that would like to meet at the North Street garage to see the presentation is welcome.

**Mayor Murphy** reported for **Alex Wade** Special Projects. See attached report. The Village will receive the final reimbursement of \$39,000 from NYSDOT for the completed Bluestone Sidewalk project. Thank you to Alex Wade for his hard work on this project.

**Mayor Murphy** had presented the renewal of the contract with Roemer, Wallens, Gold and Mineaux for labor relations at the previous Board meeting. **Mayor Murphy** would like to propose renewing the contract for one year and not commit for the remaining two.

**Trustee Hackett** commented that he spoke with **Trustee Parisian** about the contract and he agrees that the Village should have an attorney for the Union negotiations and that the Village should try to get the law firm to agree to a one year contract.

**May Mayor** stated that if we don't have an attorney on retainer it may cost more money to get representation when we need it.

**Trustee Parisian** also stated that it is an advantage to have an attorney that is familiar with the Village that knows our business. Roemer, Wallens, Gold and Mineaux has represented the Village in union representation for many years and is very knowledgeable about the labor relations with in the Village. It is a necessary "insurance" expense to avoid arbitration. **Deputy Mayor Mayer** agreed that it is important to have the law firm on retainer.

**Mayor Murphy made a motion for the Board to approve the Mayor to sign a one year contract to retain Roemer, Wallens, Gold and Mineaux as representation for labor relations should they accept it. Trustee Parisian seconded the motion for the Board to approve the Mayor to sign a one year contract to retain**

**Roemer, Wallens, Gold and Mineaux as representation for labor relations should they accept it. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.**

**Mayor Murphy** reintroduced the 2020-21 Village Budget. No one from the meeting had any additional questions or concerns.

**Mayor Murphy made a motion to approve the 2020-2021 Village Budget as presented. Deputy Mayor Mayer seconded the motion to approve the 2020-2021 Village Budget as presented. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.**

**Mayor Murphy** announced that there are washable, cloth face masks available in the Village office for anyone that may need them. Chief Sinagra donated a box of 500 masks.

**Trustee Hackett made a motion to adjourn the Village Board meeting, seconded by Deputy Mayor Mayer. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously. The Village Board Meeting adjourned at 5:57 pm.**

**Next Village Board meeting is Monday May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 5:30 pm via Webex.**  
**<https://villageofsaugerties.my.webex.com/join/bmurphy>**

Lisa Mayone  
Village Clerk  
Filed 5/8/2020