



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

Village Board Meeting Minutes September 21, 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, Jeff Helmuth, Brian Martin, Supervisors: Alex Wade, Mike Hopf, Mike Marino, Eyal Saad, Others: Dave Gordon, Bill Kemble, Frank Oliveri

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

Mayor Murphy led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Privilege of the Floor – Frank Oliveri, Finger Street, addressed the Board regarding his water bill. The water bill, that covers water usage for the months of May, June July, was outrageously high. The water charge was \$441 and the Sewer was \$717. **Mr. Oliveri** is disputing the sewer fee based on a portion of the water that is being used for watering his lawn and garden and not being processed through the sewer system. **Mr. Oliveri** is asking for a resolution to the situation. **Mayor Murphy** agreed that the amount is outrageous but thought there may be an underlying issue. **Mayor Murphy** stated that some Village residents have put in a water spike on their property for the purpose of watering their lawns. **Water Supervisor, Mike Hopf**, explained that the only relief currently available for the sewer is for one time pool filling for new pools or liner replacement. The sewer and the water are billed at a one to one ratio with the sewer fee being higher due to the cost of processing. For every gallon of water consumed there is a charge for a gallon processed through the sewer system. There is no other way to calculate for sewer charges only. There is no separate sewer meter. Drilled well points are what the Mayor had referred to, that some residents use to water their lawns. **Trustee Helmuth** questioned whether or not a dual meter could be utilized on his irrigation system. **Mike Hopf** stated that the Village only provides one meter per household. Some landlords have installed additional meters at their own expense to meter each apartments usage. Any changes to village code requiring additional meters would be something that the Board would have to adopt. There was a discussion as to how it would be possible to separate the water and sewer charges.

Mayor Murphy stated that he and the sewer department Superintendent and Liaison would look over Mr. Oliveri's current bill, compare it to previous years and see how much of a relief they could give him for this bill.

Mr. Oliveri said he appreciated that and he is not opposed to paying a short term expense for a long term savings. He would be willing to look into either option of the spike or second meter.

Mike Hopf stated that if the Village were to adopt a change to the laws regarding the number of water meters, then they would have to consider requiring a backflow device for those meters that were on irrigation systems.

Mayor Murphy stated that it would be up to **Mr. Oliveri** to look into his options and if he would rather have a second meter than a spike well, then the Board would have to go through the process of amending the law.

Mr. Oliveri thanked the Board for their time.

There were no other residents on the Webex meeting to address the Board.

Mayor Murphy presented the Village Board Meeting Minutes from September 8, 2020.

Trustee Buono questioned the information in the minutes regarding the replacement of the RBC at the sewer plant. It states that the RBC will be installed at the end of September or beginning of October. **Mike Marino** explained that the old RBC was disassembled and removed and the installation of the new RBC

has been delayed due to a COVID 19 production slowdown. The new RBC is expected to be installed at the end of September or beginning of October. A way to control the odor is being investigated.

Deputy Mayor Mayer made a motion to approve the Village Board Meeting Minutes from September 8, 2020. The motion to approve the minutes from September 8, 2020 was seconded by Trustee Martin. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Buono presented the Abstract for September 21, 2020:

- General \$ 64,380.19
- Water \$ 11,043.08
- Wastewater \$ 18,351.03

Trustee Martin made a motion to approve the Abstract for September 21, 2020. The motion to approve the Abstract for September 21, 2020 was seconded Deputy Mayor Mayer. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Reports

Alex Wade - Report attached.

The Census is going well, Ulster County is at the National Average of 92% response. They are still canvassing door to door and the deadline has been extended through October.

The Comprehensive Plan Committee will meet tonight and should be sending the final draft to Ulster County.

The Ulster County Transportation Committee is meeting tomorrow.

Trustee Helmuth will attend the next Ashokan Release Working Group meeting.

Mike Marino – Report Attached. Heavy rains flooded the Waste Water plant. It took 2-3 days to clean up the mud. The area behind the plant has been regraded to prevent any future mudslides from Post Street. The RBC removal took approximately 6 days and the delivery and installation has been held up due to COVID restrictions. The odor control system has been reprogrammed to run longer at a stronger concentration. The concentration is an absorber not just a deodorize. The cooler weather will help with the odor. **Trustee Buono** questioned the progress on the Main Street and Washington Avenue sewer repair project. Mike Marino stated that he has been in contact with the engineers and they are working on getting the project out to bid. Updated inf would be reported to the Board.

Mayor Murphy would like to have the project done before the possibility of school being back in session in October.

Mike Hopf – Report attached.

The Governor's Office of Storm Recovery will be sending a letter to the new owners of Winston Farm regarding the Villages interest in obtaining a right of way for the CRZ Secondary Water Source project.

The DEC was contacted regarding 21 dead geese that were dumped into the tributary of the water supply. The DEC will set up a trail camera if this happens again.

Eyal Saad – Report attached.

Trustee Reports

Trustee Martin presented the Fire Department's report. Report attached.

The rescue truck is out of service for a few days while it is at Eagle Diesel for repairs.

Deputy Mayor Mayer

- Former TV 23 Board member Barry Kerr, passed away recently.
- Comprehensive Plan Committee has a meeting tonight. The final draft will be reviewed and then sent to Ulster County.

- The Artists Association is working on their website and budget. The next meeting will be September 25.
- Chamber of Commerce former member Stew Fox has passed away.
The loyalty shopper cards for Village and Town merchants have been distributed and can be picked up at the Village office, M&T Bank ,the Public Library and most businesses throughout the Town. There are 88 businesses participating. Thirty stamps are needed for the prize drawing at the Holiday in the Village. The prize is dinner and an overnight stay at Diamond Mills. The next Chamber meeting is September 30.

Mayor Murphy added that there are plans for 2 bands to be performing at the Reis parking lot and the Partition Street parking lot on October 4 to celebrate 1st Friday.

Trustee Helmuth-Nothing new to report.

Trustee Parisian reported for the DPW. Report attached.

Trustee Buono-Nothing new to report.

Mayor Murphy made a motion to adjourn the Village Board Meeting seconded by Trustee Helmuth. The motion carried unanimously. The Village Board Meeting adjourned at 6:18 pm.

**The Village Board meeting is Monday October 5, 2020 at 5:30 pm via Webex.
<https://villageofsaugerties.my.webex.com/join/bmurphy>**

Lisa Mayone
Village Clerk
9/24/2020