



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

Village Board Meeting Minutes May 18, 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, Trustees Vince Buono, Terry Parisian, Don Hackett, Brian Martin Others: Alex Wade, Paula Kerbert, Mike Hopf, Eyal Saad, Mike Marino, Chris Wade, Patrick Wadden, Laura Kopczak

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

Mayor Murphy led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Privilege of the Floor – **Patrick Wadden** with Arm of the Sea addressed the Board regarding the Tidewater Center. The consideration of partnership between the Village and Arm of the Sea for a grant application had been proposed at the previous Board meeting. This partnership would enable the moving forward of the Tidewater Center on the water front and additional public access to the creek at Tina Chorvas Park by the implementation of a 130 foot bulkhead and walkway along the coal bin structure. The director of the Local Waterfront Revitalization program at the Dept. of State is optimistic that the grant cycle will be announced this month.

The Planning Board has approved the Site Plan and Special use permit for the Tidewater Center. The Arm of the Sea has signed for the title of the property from the Hudson River Sloop Clearwater. A grant was obtained to hire the engineering firm to design the bulkhead. The draft memorandum of understanding had been forwarded to the Village Board for consideration. A markup version of the MOU was received back from the Village attorney, Ben Neidel, just before the meeting tonight. Once the grant cycle program is announced, all the paperwork needs to be in place including the easement agreement that remains open.

Mayor Murphy stated that the Board considered the MOU and agrees with the edits from the Village attorney. The edited MOU should be reviewed by the Arm of the Sea and their attorney before going further.

Trustee Hackett stated he had taken an onsite tour of the area for the Tidewater Center and was very impressed. **Mayor Murphy** encouraged all the Board members to reach out to Patrick Wadden for a tour.

Trustee Buono is in support of the project as long as the proper agreement is in place.

Patrick Wadden will respond once their lawyer has reviewed the edited MOU.

Mayor Murphy presented the Village Board Meeting Minutes from May 4, 2020.

Trustee Parisian made a motion to approve the Village Board Meeting Minutes from May 4, 2020. The motion to approve the minutes from May 4, 2020 was seconded by Trustee Martin. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Murphy presented the Village Board Public Hearing Minutes for the 2020-21 Budget from May 4, 2020. Trustee Martin made a motion to approve the Village Board Minutes Public Hearing Minutes for the 2020-21 Budget from May 4, 2020. The motion to approve the minutes from Village Board Public Hearing Minutes for the 2020-21 Budget from May 4, 2020 was seconded by Trustee Parisian. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Buono presented the Abstract for April 20 2020:

- General \$ 44,979.69
- Water \$ 8,557.07
- Wastewater \$ 17,306.02

Trustee Hackett made a motion to approve the Abstract for May 18, 2020. The motion to approve the Abstract of May 18, 2020 was seconded Trustee Parisian. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Supervisor Reports

Mike Hopf gave his report for the Water Department. See attached report.

Mike Hopf requested that the late fees be suspended for the current bill be extended to July 1st.

The new quarterly bills will be mailed May, 29th.

Mayor Murphy made a motion to extend the late fees on the current water bills until July 1, 2020. Trustee Parisian seconded the motion to extend the late fees on the current water bills until July 1, 2020. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Mike Marino gave his report for the Wastewater Department. See attached report.

Trustee Parisian questioned Mike Marino regarding how many and the cost of the settling tank valves.

Mike Marino stated there are 20-25 valves at a cost of \$1200-1500 per valve plus the cost of installation.

Additionally, the digester has to be pumped out in order to fix the valves at a cost of approximately \$50,000.

The valves last on an average of 5-10 years. The cost of the valve replacement will be phased when necessary.

Eyal Saad reported for the Building and Safety Department.

The annual MS4 report has been completed and will be mailed tomorrow once signed by the Mayor.

General construction will be allowed in phase 2 of NYS COVID19 guidelines, which starts Tuesday May 26th.

Eyal Saad has completed his renewal of the Building Department certification.

Chief Wade gave the report for the Fire Department. See attached report.

Fire Department personnel have been training on line with the county and there will be a training drill in the Firehouse on Wednesday May 20th. All equipment has been cleaned and repaired. Birthday party parades continue for local children.

Alex Wade reported for Special Projects. See attached report.

Trustee Parisian reported that DPW is back to full staff according to CDC guidelines.

Trustee Reports

Trustee Hackett had nothing new to report.

Trustee Martin reported that bid from Sourcewell for the ladder truck needs to be voted on before June 1 to keep the quoted price.

Trustee Martin made a motion to accept the Sourcewell Bid for the Fire Department ladder truck. Trustee Hackett seconded the motion to accept the Sourcewell Bid for the Fire Department ladder truck. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Buono commented on the Wallens contract for labor relations. The contract is not a three year commitment. The contract can be cancelled and or renegotiated each year. The increase would be \$25 per month beginning next year.

Trustee Buono made a motion to approve the Roemer, Wallens Gold and Mineaux contract. The motion to approve the Roemer, Wallens Gold and Mineaux contract was seconded by Trustee Parisian. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Buono stated that the 2020 tax bills will be mailed by June 1st. Mayor Murphy explained that he contacted the state regarding the suspension of late fees until December. The letter indicated that since the

Villag is not made whole by the county then the waiving of the late fees should be up to the municipality. No response has been recieved yet.

Trustee Hackett questioned whether or not residents paying their taxes on time would get a *give back*.

Paula Kerbert stated that 40% of the residents have their taxes paid through escrow. It is a big number to have to give back to, plus to the residents that individually pay on time. The letter to be enclosed with the tax bills will explain that payment arrangements will be required to delay the late fees until December 1st.

Trustee Parisian questioned whether the names of delinquent tax payers should be published in the newspaper. **Mayor Murphy** replied that it had been discussed in the past and felt that he rather reach out to the residents instead. **Mayor Murphy** credited **Trustee Buono and Paula Kerbert** in getting the amount of delinquent tax accounts to a minimum.

Mayor Murphy had presented the application by Melanie Avallone, 202 Washington Ave, for permit to Keep Farm Animals in the Village. The Board reviewed the application and plans. There will be 6 female chickens in a planned chicken coop.

Trustee Hackett made a motion to approve the permit to keep farm animals at her village residence, 202 Washington Avenue to Melanie Avallone. Trustee Parisian seconded the motion to approve the permit to keep farm animals at her village residence, 202 Washington Avenue to Melanie Avallone. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Murphy announced that there will be a vehicle parade honoring essential workers on Friday. The parade will include Police, Fire Departments, and Sherriff's Department as escorts and follow the 4th of July parade route through the Village streets. This will be the first such parade in Ulster County. There will be a second vehicle parade on Saturday, honoring the High School Spring Sports teams that were not allowed to have their seasonal sport. At the end of the parade, the Senior Varsity players will be honored individually at Cantine Field with their sports number and a photo with parents. Each player will also receive a t-shirt. New banners honoring the Class of 2020 and essential workers will be displayed in place of the Stallions banners along several streets throughout the Village.

Mayor Murphy requested a moment of silence in honor of the passing of Helen Hally a former Town of Saugerties Police dispatcher and mother of Village Clerk Lisa Mayone.

Trustee Hackett made a motion to adjourn the Village Board meeting, seconded by Trustee Parisian. The motion carried unanimously. The Village Board Meeting adjourned at 6:34 pm.

The Year-end Board Meeting date to be determined before the end of May.

The Village Board meeting is Monday June 1st, 2020 at 5:30 pm via Webex.

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

Lisa Mayone
Village Clerk
Filed 5/27/2020