**VILLAGE OF VALATIE**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

**NOVEMBER 12, 2019**

**7:00 P.M.**

**Board Members Present** **Audience**

Mayor Diane Argyle Randall Schmitt

Trustee Frank Bevens

Trustee Larry Eleby

Trustee Angelo Nero

Trustee David Williams

Robert Fitzsimmons, Esq.- absent- notified

Mayor Argyle opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Resolution #56** was made by Trustee Bevens to approve the minutes of October 22, 2019. Trustee Eleby seconded the motion, all in favor, carried.

**Resolution # 57** was made by Trustee Eleby to pay amended claims #2019-6, #244-273 for a total of $26,611.91 and $26,602.52 for off abstract bills making the total of all bills $30,000.91. Trustee Bevens seconded the motion, all in favor, carried.

There was no public comment.

**V.E.R.A.-** Randall Schmitt provided the Board with the Winter Walk budget for this year. Walt Simmonsmeier was looking into a wagon ride for that night and will check on liability insurance. V.E.R.A. is also looking into some funding from the Bank of Greene County. Trustee Bevens asked if Randall could provide the previous year budget amounts for review looking forward so the Board can do a comparison. Randall also reminded the Board that Small Business Saturday will take place the Saturday after Thanksgiving. They are looking for a Grand Marshall.

**Resolution # 58** was made by Trustee Williams to accept the Winter Walk budget from V.E.R.A. Trustee Bevens seconded, all in favor, carried.

The Board discussed the sale of the US Hotel and the Trolley Station which are currently being overseen by the LDC. When the Village gave the lands to the LDC to manage, the deeds had a reverter clause that stated that if the LDC no longer kept the properties, they would revert back to the village. Since the LDC is no longer functioning and the properties have a buyer, the Board needs this reverter clause extinguished to sell the properties, get them in to private ownership, pay off the debts and then put them back on the tax rolls for the village. If these properties reverted back to the village, the village would get the debt back and the village would need to manage the properties. Village government does not operate in a landlord capacity therefore the LDC was formed to do that function.

**Resolution #59** was made by Trustee Bevens “Authorizing the Release of the Right of Reverter as to Parcels located at 3001 and 3015 Main Street, Valatie, NY.” Trustee Nero seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Fire Department**-

Chief Dolan did not attend the meeting. No report on file. The Board did discuss signing the Mutual Aid Agreement contract for Columbia County that should have been signed earlier in the year.

**Resolution # 60** was made by Trustee Bevens to sign the Mutual Aid Fire Contract in conjunction with Columbia County. Trustee Eleby seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Theater**- no report

**Parks**- no report

**Water/Sewer**- (Monthly report on file in the Clerk’s Office)The Board discussed getting a new generator at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and what to do with the old one once the new one is placed. The Board is looking to place a pad for the generator by the creek but questioned whether the old one will be in the way if they don’t remove it. They discussed whether we needed to go through a bid process to sell it or can we just put it on an auction site to sell it? Mayor Argyle will contact Rob Fitzsimmons for his advice since he could not attend tonight’s meeting.

The mayor also commented that the water tanks need painting soon and she suggested that the Village take the money from selling the cell site rentals to paint the towers. She stated we could try to do this within the budget and will get quotes to paint the tanks which can be very expensive.

**Clerk**- The clerk is looking into getting a stand -alone message center for outside the Village office to post Village functions. She is currently looking into prices. She is also looking further into the Gettysburg Veterans banners for different sizes and pricing. The clerk will attend a class on EDRS (DOH Death Certificates) in Saratoga Springs on December 9th. The Town offices and the Village Offices along with the Mayor and Town Supervisor, have discussed office closing times during this holiday season. On November 26th, the Village office will close 1 hour early (2:00 pm). The office will be closing early on December 24th at noon for Christmas and one hour early on December 31st before New Year’s Day.

The clerk is also getting quotes for dumpster prices for the wastewater plant that may be a little cheaper than what we are already paying.

**Resolution #61** was made by Trustee Eleby for the clerk to look for better pricing for the dumpster at the wastewater treatment plant. Trustee Bevens seconded, all in favor, carried.

**Senior Center**-The lights are being installed by Peter Rothermel. There will be a dinner held on Tuesday, November 19th at the center by the Rotary Club for the seniors and the food pantry workers.

**Water-Sewer forgiveness**- The Board decided to shut off the water for an unpaid bill at the John Dugan property after several attempts to work on getting the bill paid. A letter will be sent out with any other delinquent notices.

**Highway Department**- No report.

**Building Dept**.- Stephanie Carradine- Ruchel has been working with Building Inspector Vince Concra on inspections and is in the office two days a week to do paperwork.

**MHG Applications**- There are 4 applications before the Board. All paperwork is on file in the clerk’s office.

1. Capital District Rockets
2. Columbia County Democratic Committee
3. Boy Scout Troop 113- crew meetings/troop/pack mtgs.
4. Boy Scout Troop 113- troop meetings

**Resolution #62** was made by Trustee Bevens to approve the requests, Trustee Nero seconded, all in favor, carried.

Mayor Argyle asked the Board to think about hiring a water/sewer plant operator soon to get that person up to speed before Superintendent Paul Warner retires at the end of next year or early in 2021. This person could work half time right now as a “handy man” while learning the operations of the wastewater plant etc.

With no further business to discuss,

**Resolution #63** was made by Trustee Bevens to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 pm. Trustee Eleby seconded, all in favor, carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Fischer

Village Clerk