

Village of Valatie Board Meeting

May 14, 2013

Approved Minutes

Parties Present

Mayor Argyle

Tr. Bevens

Tr. Freinberg-Trufas

Tr. Bickerton

Tr. Nero

Robert Fitzsimmons

10 members of the public and 2 members of the press

Regular Village Board Meeting

Mayor Argyle opened the meeting at 7:30pm

Pledge to the Flag

Public Comment Received:

- Question concerning when the flag poles would be put in at the Square. Tr. Freinberg-Trufas is taking care of the matter.

Presentation Delaware Engineering, Mary Beth Bianconi

- Discussed the testing of wells
- Need for a long term plan
- June 3rd the last piece of equipment will be installed in sewer plant
- Details of new generator
- Discussed the different aspects of the building and how it can be updated/improved. Need to come up with a budget

Motion, Tr. Bevens: Approve minutes from April 9, 2013 and April 30th, 2013. Seconded by Tr. Bickerton, all members present voted yes.

Motion, Tr. Bevens: Audit meeting conducted, seconded by Tr. Bickerton, all members present voted yes.

Motion, Tr. Bickerton, Approve payment of claims 2013-12-01 to 2013-12-56, seconded by Tr. Nero, all members present voted yes.

Committee Reports:

Fire Department Report – No report given

Theater Report – Dr. Baillargeon gave us an update of events occurring throughout the year:

- Garden Party – Sunday, May 17th 2:00 to 4:00
- Youth Productions in the summer
- Musical groups coming in
- June 7th – Open Mic night
- July 13 – Paul Miller Quartet
- August – Reverberators
- September 7 – Peoples Prayer. More spiritual and trying to get local churches involved
- October – Rocky Horror Show
- End November to December – Hoping to do Christmas Carol again.

Would like to look into getting the front hall, especially near doorway, insulated. Tr. Bickerton will look into heat/air for the front section. Would like to work on outside wall but it is a rather large project. There are lights that need to be replaced.

Once storage shed is put in, the trailer will be cleaned out into the new shed as well as the storage area at the sewer plant. There are

some odds and ends, nothing of importance that can be disposed of. The trailer will be moved thereafter. Fence will be installed last.

Building Dept. – Mayor Argyle provided a verbal report. Robert Fitzsimons and Walt Simonsmeier have met to discuss logistics of violation letters and when to take action

DPW Report – Tr. Brevens read report from John Ruchel.

- Williams Street – Needs to be completed. 4 things need to be done to complete the project: top soil, seeding, bricks, and decision on one way.
 - Obtained an estimate from C & E Rothermel for the topsoil and seeding - \$975.00
 - Obtained an estimate for laying down the bricks - \$5000.00. Need to obtain more estimates.
 - The monies for this last phase of the project was discussed and included in the original plans. The project was done in phases; this being the last.

Tr. Bickerton, motion to move forward with the project, hiring C & E Rothermel for \$975.00 to bring in top soil and do the seeding, seconded by Tr. Freinberg-Trufas, all members present voted yes.

- Flow of one way traffic on Williams street needs to be decided. Robert Fitzsimons advised the Board a Local law needs to be adopted. Mr. Fitzsimons will prepare this local law for the next meeting in which the following meeting, July, we can have a public hearing.

The handicap parking in front of the senior center needs to be moved to the side of the building.

VERA - In years past, VERA has provided the hanging baskets lining Main Street. This year, VERA is unable to provide. The Village will purchase this year from Running Creek. The village will also maintain the flowers.

- No decisions have been made for setting a date for Hoopla

- Tr. Freinberg-Trufas made mention of significant changes with VERA including reorganization. Tr. Freinberg-Trufas will be attending the next meeting.

Parks Report – Mayor Argyle informed the board and public that River Street Park will be closed for about a week to have work performed. There will be barricades and signs put up.

Water/Sewer - Mayor Argyle thanked the clerk for completing the new water/sewer software and getting the bills out (late). Also thanked Tr. Bevens and Tr. Nero for helping in collecting monies on delinquent water bills. To date, 14,700.00 have been collected on the delinquent water bills. Arrangements have been made with a few of the businesses that have been behind.

Received letter from acct #1991 requesting the forgiveness of interest and penalties. He is a leasee and he was under the understanding that the landlord was paying the water bill. The building was sold and no contact was made with the Village of Valatie Office concerning any final readings or information on water/sewer bills.

Tr. Bevens makes a motion to drop the penalty for account # 1991, seconded by Tr. Nero, all members present in favor.

Grease traps – Mayor Argyle stressed the importance of businesses having grease traps. In the past, September 2012, letters were sent out to all businesses requiring grease trap inspections will be done. Only one responded and went thru the inspection. Follow up was not successful. Mayor Argyle would like our village attorney, Robert Fitzsimons, to draw up a letter stating the need to inspect. If an establishment does not have one, give 30 days for installation and follow-up. If an establishment does not comply, the village will fine \$1000.00 (according to code book) the establishment.

Recently had a situation with grease in our sewer lines.

Tr. Freinberg-Trufas stressed the importance of everyone should be treated equally, across the board.

Mayor Argyle stated the need for the village to get their own people trained in the sewer department to do the inspections. Until that time, Rural Water could be used to conduct the inspections.

Memorial Day Parade – Tr. Nero enlightened the Board with details of the parade. The town of Kinderhook is hosting the parade and it will be held in the Village of Valatie this year. Lineup will begin at 9am. The parade route begins on Mechanic Street, onto Main Street and up to Glynn Square where a memorial service will be done. There is one more meeting prior to the parade.

Security Cameras - Mayor Argyle is looking for locations and ideas of where cameras should be installed. AT the present time there is a camera on the corner of Main and Church but it does not go anywhere. The camera on the American Legion was taken down and has not been placed. Tr. Freinberg-Trufas suggested we ask S&F to come and tell us how and where the cameras should be placed. Have the company lay out a long range plan. All recordings should be in the sheriff's office as it has in the past. The cameras have been valuable in the past and help to solve some cases.

HUD Loans – Jason Nastke sent letters to each Board member with Tr. Freinberg-Trufas.

Motion, Tr. Bevans authorizing the clerk to send out tax bills, Tr. Bickerton seconded. Roll call:

Tr. Freinberg-Trufas – Abstained

Tr. Nero – Yes

Tr. Bevans – Yes

Tr. Bickerton – Yes

Mayor Argyle – Yes

Tr. Freinberg-Trufas asked to explain her reasons for abstaining. Tr. Freinberg-Trufas stated she went thru the budget with a fine tooth comb and discovered a grave error; the tax rate was increased by 2% but the tax

levy was not. The 2% was applied to the wrong number. Trustee Freinberg-Trufas called the State Comptrollers and inquired if this could be amended. At this point, it is not possible to amend. State Comptroller's office informed Tr. Freinberg-Trufas that a tax cap form had not been completed or turned in to the State. This form, if completed, would have given the Village the right tax amount. Tr. Freinberg-Trufas question clerk if this form has been completed, of which the answer was no. Tr. Freinberg suggested to the Mayor and the Board of Trustees that serious thoughts need to be put into lowering numbers on the budget so that the Village is not racing thru their savings. Tr. Freinberg-Trufas mentioned the importance of fixing the mistake.

Correspondence:

- Received a letter concerning asphalt repair needed on end of driveway on church street
- Received a letter concerning Spring Street. Letter requests a reduce speed limit.

Concerns about Church and Main Street were discussed. Tr. Freinberg-Trufas mentioned she does not feel safe pulling out onto Main Street from Church Street; would like to make that no right turn allowed. The cars that are parked in the no parking zone are not compact cars but trucks. Tr. Freinberg-Trufas would like to ask the Sheriff's office to patrol that area.

Tr. Bevins stated that descions such as Tr. Freinberg-Trufas suggestion cannot be done without DOT getting involved. Is a long process that includes doing a study. Tr. Bevins also stated that the DOT will be painting the yellow lines and crosswalks late June or July. Brief discussion concerning people not using crosswalks and cars are parking right up to the cross walks.

Creation of Subcommittee for Local Law 2 of 2008:

Mayor Appointed – Mike Clark, Planning Board Chairman

Kevin Walsh, Zoning Board Chairman

Walt Simionsmeier, Building Inspector

Angelo Nero, Trustee

Looking for 2 volunteers. Local Law 2 of 2008 was created for the resident senior housing.

Motion, Tr. Bevens to form the committee to look over Local Law 2 of 2008, seconded by Tr. Bickerton, all members present voted yes.

Community Day:

Mayor Argyle would like to have a community day and incorporate the celebration Martin H Glynn becoming president. Would also like to give out the Spirit of Valatie Award.

Spirit of Valatie Award Committee:

1. Dominic Lizzi
2. Jackie Hennissey
3. Nick Becker
4. Tr. Nero
5. Nancy Kelly
6. Additional volunteer

Community Day Committee:

1. Dominic Lizzi
2. Valatie Library
3. Carol Williams
4. Jamie Keenan
5. Jackie Hennissey
6. Nancy Kelly

Motion, Tr. Bickerton to enter into executive session at 9:22pm to discuss personnel, seconded by Tr. Bevens, all members voted yes.

Motion, Tr. Freinberg-Trufasto exit Executive session at 10:28pm, seconded by Tr. Bevens, all members presented voted yes.

Motion, Tr. Bevens to direct the Village Attorney to draft an agreement with the union for bringing back Paul Warner, seconded by Tr. Nero. Roll Call:

Tr. Freinberg-Trufas – No

Tr. Nero – Yes

Tr. Bevens – Yes

Tr. Phillip – Yes

Mayor Argyle – Yes

Motion, Tr. Freinberg-Trufas to accept quote of \$950.00 by Dandelion Designs to design a 10 page Village website, seconded by Tr. Nero, all members present voted yes.

Tr. Bevins will do away with the hosting we have. Tr. Bevins will donate the monies he spent on this hosting.

Motion, Tr. Freinberg-Trufas to adjourn meeting at 10:35pm, seconded by Trustee Nero, all members present voted yes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melissa Martino-Morin

Village Clerk