VILLAGE OF VALATIE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

NOVEMBER 10, 2015

PRESENT AUDIENCE

Mayor Diane Argyle 4 residents, 1 reporter

Trustee Frank Bevens

Trustee Angelo Nero

Trustee David Williams

Trustee Phil Bickerton

Robert Fitzsimmons, Esq.

Mayor Argyle called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Resolution #78** was made by Trustee Bevens to approve the minutes of October 20, 2015. Trustee Nero seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

**Resolution #79** was made by Trustee Bickerton to approve claims # 2015-06-#221-262 for a total of $20,728.59 and the off abstract vouchers that totaled $48,998.53. Trustee Williams seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

**Public Comment**-

Lisa Hill who owns the new consignment shop on Main Street inquired about Building Inspector Walt Simonsmeiers’ retirement? She is asking for an inspection of the front of her building so she may qualify for the grant for improvements to businesses. She was informed that he is retiring at the end of December.

**Fire Department**-

Assistant Chief Rustin Dolan is attending Fire School, therefore Trustee Bevens read his report.

There were 8 calls since the last meeting, 1 drill and 1 company detail. There will be a Chicken Barbeque on November 11th for take- out only. The Fire Department is asking for assistance from residents in clearing snow away from hydrants this winter. They also remind everyone to change the batteries in your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. (Full report is on file in the clerk’s office).

**Theatre**-

Dr. Baillargeon stated that the Rocky Horror Picture Show was well attended in October with approximately 40 people. Magdelana’s sponsored a Mariachi Band with approximately 45 people attending. The heat in the building is still an issue and there will be a fund raiser on Saturday, November 14th for the Amy Ryan Band which will help to fund a trip for them. Santa will be at the theatre during Winter Walk. Trustee Bickerton noted that the door is up and working with a push bar on the inside. Tile work is being done as well as some trim around the doorway. Trustee Williams will try to contact Sam Austin for the heat.

**Parks**-

A garbage basket was smashed at Callan Park and one of the cameras in the park is broken possibly due to its age- 7 years. This kind of camera is no longer being made. The video is gone on the camera which was influential in generating 5 arrests for vandalism which the Village received restitution for.

**Resolution # 80** was made by Trustee Bickerton to purchase a new camera at a cost of $3200.00. Trustee Williams seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

**Water/Sewer Department**-

(Full monthly report is on file in the Village Clerk’s office) Paul Warner is transporting samples to Syracuse for polymer testing. There are a few more items needed to be done to close the wastewater treatment plant project. Well # 3 is going to be used as a backup line and the Health Department will be informed of this.

**Water Shutoffs**-

**Resolution # 81** was made by Trustee Nero not to give any more relief to water bill account number 1460 stating that the landowner is responsible for any balance remaining on the account for their tenant since relief has already been given to this account. Trustee Bevens seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Mr. Penn Steuerwald appeared before the Village Board asking for relief of his water bill account number 300 which is an apartment building. The Board discussed any relief with Mr. Steuerwald at length and decided to table the discussion at 7:57 pm to enter into executive session at the end of the regular meeting to discuss the matter. They asked Mr. Steuerwald to return at approximately 9:00pm to discuss the result of the executive session.

The Board asked that registered shutoff letters be sent to the following accounts; 690,980, 1150,1120,1121(shutoff immediately),970- notice only in arrears.

**Resolution # 82** was made by Trustee Nero to send the shutoff letters to the above mentioned accounts by register mail. Trustee Bickerton seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

**V.E.R.A**.-

Randall Schmitt informed the Board that Small Business Saturday is November 28th. The Winter Walk Celebration will be held December 12th from 5-9 p.m. There are a lot of vendors signed up and more coming. The Senior Center will be open for the children and there will be a book signing and a parade. All vendors will present their vouchers to the Village Office for payment before the December 8th meeting.

**Other Business**-

The Board received 3 resumes for Building Inspector/ Zoning Code Enforcement Officer to replace Walt Simonsmeier who is retiring at the end of December. The Board will interview each candidate at a Special Meeting on November 16th at 5:00 pm. The Board wishes Mr. Simonsmeier well and “Thanks” him for his many years of service to the Village!

**Resolution # 83** was made by Trustee Bevens to appoint Thomas Puchner as the new member of the Village Zoning Board of Appeals replacing interim Board member Diana Van Alstyne. The Board “Thanked” Mrs. Van Alstyne for filling in until a new member could be found.

There is asbestos abatement going on currently at the Habitat for Humanity House located on Upper Main Street.

**Clerk’s Office**-

The County is no longer doing the electronics recycling at the moment. The contract has run out but they are looking into signing another contract. The Clerk’s Office will be doing a recycling program for batteries, cell phones and cell phone batteries. A notice will be placed in the newsletters with the water bills.

**Senior Center**-

A player piano and a couch have been donated to the Senior Center. A letter of thanks will be sent to each donor.

**Highway**-

Trustee Bevens stated that the parking lot at the Senior Center has had lines painted. He is also working with the Town Highway to decide where (new) signage needs to be placed.

Emelia Teasdale asked if there is any overnight parking at the Lodge parking lot. Mayor Argyle stated that the parking lot is being leased now and the rules are set by the lessor. There is no overnight parking or all day parking currently.

**Sidewalk & Trees on Main Street, etc.**-

There is a stump that sticks out in front of the Hair Zone salon that needs to be taken out and filled in with concrete. John Ruchel will take care of this. Randall Schmitt will be making a report soon on the trees on Main Street.

Trustees Bickerton and Bevens spoke to Mr. Porreca regarding the trees that are blocking the view of oncoming traffic on his property. Mr. Porreca agreed to remove them from this area and re-locate them. Mr. Porreca will check with Cornell Cooperative Extension to see when it is a good time to re-locate shrubs.

**Climate Change Resolution**-

**Resolution # 84** was made by Trustee Bickerton to pass a resolution stating support for climate change for the NYS Climate Smart Communities program. Trustee Bevens seconded the motion. Trustees Williams and Nero voted no. Vote- Trustees Bickerton, Bevens and Mayor- yes, Trustees Williams and Nero voted no stating the Village already supports climate change. Motion passed.

**New Business**-

Applications for MHG Building-

 Rotary Club

 Literacy Club

 Girl Scouts

**Resolution # 85** was made by Trustee Bevens to approve all applications for use of the MHG Building. Trustee Nero seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

The Veteran’s Day Ceremony will be held at 11:00 am on November 11th at the Martin H. Glynn Square.

**Public Comment**-

Emelia Teasdale inquired about what the Village can do about feral cats. The Village and Town are trying to control this problem and Animalkind has been contacted.

**Resolution # 86** was made by Trustee Nero to enter into executive session at 8:43 pm. to discuss water bill account number 300. Trustee Bevens seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

**Resolution # 87** was made by Trustee Bickerton to exit out of executive session at 9:00 pm. Trustee Bevens seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

**Resolution # 88** was made by Trustee Bickerton to allow Mr. Penn Steuerwald to pay $2,000.00 by December 15th and reduce his water bill pay to an even $10,000.00 as the balance owed. Trustee Bevens seconded the motion. Trustee Williams and Nero voted no. Vote- Trustees Bickerton, Bevens and Mayor- yes. Trustees Williams and Nero- no. Motion carried.

The law regarding the new parking tickets will be sent to the Sheriff’s Department and it has already been sent to the State according to Rob Fitzsimmons. We are waiting on the tickets to be printed.

With no further business to discuss,

**Resolution # 89** was made by Trustee Bickerton to adjourn the meeting at 9:23 pm. Trustee Bevens seconded the motion, all in favor, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Fischer

Village Clerk/Treasurer