

VILLAGE OF VALATIE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
APRIL 19, 2016

MEMBERS

Mayor Diane Argyle
Trustee Frank Bevens
Trustee Phil Bickerton
Trustee Angelo Nero
Trustee David Williams
Robert Fitzsimmons, Esq.

AUDIENCE

1st Assist. Fire Chief Rustin Dolan
3 residents

Mayor Argyle opened the meeting at 7:00 pm with a moment of silence in remembrance of Town Board member Deborah Simonsmeier who passed away earlier in the month.

The Mayor opened the meeting of the Board with the Pledge of Allegiance. The Mayor opened up the Public Hearing regarding Local Law #1 of 2016 amending the Code of the Village of Valatie in relation to fees for water and sewer connections and building permit fees at 7:01 pm. There were no comments from the audience, therefore the Public Hearing was closed at 7:02 pm.

Public Comments-

Carol Williams asked about the status of the Dedrick home that burned. She commented that kids have been seen playing around the site and she is afraid someone will get hurt. Mayor Argyle stated that the homeowners received a letter from the Building Inspector regarding the removal of the debris. The Village received a quote to remove the burned out structure and was advised by Rob Fitzsimmons that the Village can foreclose our lien on the property but it is not a quick process. The Village can secure the property with a fence for now but it is best to work with the homeowners to clear up this property. The Mayor will contact the daughter and or son of the homeowner since he is a resident of Barnwell now.

Marilyn Huffman asked that the owner of the fence that is located on the north side of the retention pond in Holly Hills either take the fence down or repair it. It a concern of safety and appearance. Repair is also needed of the fence along the Route 203 side. The Board will send a letter to the owner asking him what his plans are. The Mayor will ask Nathan Becker to rake up the leaves and bag them for the Town to take away. Ms. Huffman also asked if she could plant daffodils along Johnson Lane and Dunham Circle. She was told yes.

Fire Department-

First Assistant Chief Rustin Dolan presented his monthly report which is on file in the Clerk's office. A list of the Department Chiefs was presented before the Board also. There were 102 calls since the last meeting with 803.62 man hours put in for the month. There were 22 drills and 13 details.

Resolution # 140 was made by Trustee Bevens to approve the 2016-17 Valatie Fire Department Officers. Trustee Nero seconded, all in favor, approved.

The list of Officers is as follows:

Chief- Joseph Laviano

1st Assistant Chief- Rustin Dolan

2nd Assistant Chief- Joseph H. Loeffler

Captain- Sam Becker

1st Lieutenant- Peter Bashford

2nd Lieutenant- Phil Martel

Theater- Trustee Williams reported that we are waiting for a part for the air conditioner. Nothing to report on the door. A drawing was presented before the Board regarding changing the façade of the Theater.

Resolution # 141 was made by Trustee Bevens to allow the Theater to raise money to fix/change the front of the Theater building. Trustee Williams seconded, all in favor, carried.

Resolution # 142 was made by Trustee Bevens to allow Joe Herwick of Beaver Mill Antiques on Main Street, to hold outdoor markets on 4 Saturdays throughout the Spring and Summer. (A flyer was given to the Board). Trustee Nero seconded, all in favor, carried.

Parks-There was an issue at Callan Park regarding a man who drove over the basketball court. Police were called in to speak to this person. A quote was received by Tim Van Wagoner to put up a split rail fence around the pavilion at a cost of approximately \$500 for 110 feet of fencing.

Resolution # 143 was made by Trustee Williams to allow Mr. Van Wagoner to put up this fence at a cost not to exceed \$500. Trustee Nero seconded, all in favor, carried.

Water/ Sewer Dept.-A monthly report is on file with the Clerk's office. We are still working on closing out the Sewer Plant Project and the Mayor and Trustee Bevens are still meeting with the Union Representative on negotiations of the contract.

V.E.R.A.- no report

Clerk's Office- There will be another shredding of papers opportunity coming sometime in May or June. People are asked to check the website or call the office for dates.

Cleanup Days-There will be a Volunteer Trash Cleanup Day throughout the Village on April 30 which is being spearheaded by Nick Becker. Anyone wishing to help will meet at the Village Hall that morning at 9:00 am. There will also be a Village Wide Curb Side Cleanup day on May 14th. Residents are asked to put items outside their residences the night before.

Senior Center- no report

Highway Dept.-no report from the Department Supervisor. Improvements need to be made on Patton Lane to make it safer. There was a washout in Bob Detrick's driveway but it is believed that the State Highway Dept. that needs to take care of this issue. Also, there is a driveway drainage issue that has been going on for years at the Sanacore residence. Highway Superintendent John Ruchel stated that he can't do it but got a quote of around \$3500 to grade it. The Board will research this more to see if they can resolve this for Mr. Sanacore.

Building Department-The Building Inspector should be getting his new Muncity program soon. The Town will be paying for this program, the maintenance and training. The Building Inspector and the Village Clerk will get the training on this program.

Resolution # 144 was made by Trustee Bevens to get this new program as long as the Town is paying for it. Trustee Nero seconded, all in favor, carried.

Mini Grant- Debbie Freinberg has applied for the mini grant program to paint the front of her business.

Resolution # 145 was made by Trustee Bevens to approve the grant once Ms. Freinbergs' building passes inspection with the Village Building Inspector. Trustee Nero seconded the motion, all in favor, carried.

The Mayor reported that Gunther Fishgold would like to take the balance of the grant money back rather than let the money sit there idle and put it toward the Farmer's Market. He is also interested in the Detrick property. It was also discussed possibly using this money to take down the burned out home. Mr. Fishgold will be approached with this idea.

Water/Sewer forgiveness- No letters have been received. The Board passed a resolution at an earlier meeting to re-levy the water bills on to the tax bills of homeowners who have not paid the last two quarters or earlier of their water/sewer bill.

Other business-The Board discussed Cell Tower Lease quotes from AT & T. The Village is now getting \$50,000 a year in total. The Board received a quote of approximately \$660,000 to relinquish the lease. This is a one-time deal. The Mayor commented that the Board could use \$100,000 for the Fire House and use the rest of the money for the next 5 years to pay off old BANS and BONDS that the Village has. Water funds can be part of the General Fund but Sewer Funds must be kept separate. Trustee Nero asked to have a spreadsheet drawn up to see all the figures. The Mayor commented that a sheet was given to the Board members regarding the total BANS/ BONDS the Village has. The Board will find out if the money can be used for roads and water mains in the Village.

County Waste has been awarded the garbage contract. The Village of Kinderhook has gone with a 4 year option for renewal. (The contract is on file in the Clerk's Office for review). A notice

will be put in the next newsletter regarding residents re-cycling to keep the costs down for the Village.

Resolution # 146 was made by Trustee Bevens to sign with County Waste for another 4 years. Trustee Williams seconded, all in favor, carried.

Trustee Nero stated that Joe Laviano contacted him asking about putting up that sign Slow/Caution Children on Spring Street. Trustee Bevens is working on this with John Ruchel.

The Board discussed raising the water fees by \$1.00 for Village residents and \$3.00 for Town residents. The sewer portion would go from \$7.80 to \$9.00 to cover expenses. Rob Fitzsimmons will look into passing a law to again continue raising \$21,373 for the water budget. This is supposed to be the last year this can be done but he will look into it further. The Board will need to hold a Public Hearing to pass a Local Law to Over Ride the Tax Cap.

Resolution # 147 was made by Trustee Bevens to hold a Public Hearing to Over Ride the Tax Cap. Trustee Nero seconded, all in favor, carried.

Resolution # 148 was made by Trustee Nero to increase the water rate by \$1.00 for Village Residents and \$3.00 for Town Residents with the same gallon usage number and to hold a Public Hearing regarding this. The sewer rate will increase from \$7.80 to \$9.00. Trustee Williams seconded, all in favor, carried.

Applications for MHG use-

1. Northern Columbia Chaos- to meet November 6- December 2016. The Board held their decision until more information is obtained.
2. U.S. Hoopsters- Requesting use of the gym for basketball practice for many dates. The Board agreed as long as it is ok with the Town.
3. Apogee Center- Use of building was held for more information.
4. Family Resource Center- Held application for more information.

Resolution # 149 was made by Trustee Bevens to Declare a negative Declaration for SEQR for Local Law #1 and to adopt Local Law # 1 of 2016 amending the Code of the Village of Valatie in relation to fees for water and sewer connections and building permit fees. Trustee Nero seconded the motion, all in favor, carried.

With no further business to discuss,

Resolution # 150 was made by Trustee Bevens to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 pm. Seconded by Trustee Nero, all in favor, carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara A. Fischer
Village Clerk

