

REGULAR MEETING

FEBRUARY 3, 2022

The Board of Trustees held the Regular Meeting of February 3, 2022 at the Village Municipal Building, 167 North Main Street, Liberty New York. Mayor Stoddard opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Mayor Joan Stoddard, Deputy Mayor/Trustee Robert Mir, Trustee Ernest Feasel and Trustee Eveleese Lake. Also Present: Attorney for the Village Gary Silver and Judy Zurawski, Clerk/Treasurer.

ABSENT: Trustee Daniel Wright

ALSO PRESENT: Police Chief Steven D'Agata, Police Officer Adam Lake, Keith Herbert (JCO Environmental Services), Roy Rysinger (JCO Environmental Services) and Michael Katz (Liberty Fine Upholstery).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried approving the following minutes:

REGULAR MEETING – JANUARY 20, 2022

CORRESPONDENCE: Mayor Stoddard said the Village has received the following correspondence.

- ❖ E. Mail – Delaware Engineering – Rules for Covid Recovery Funds

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Stoddard opened the meeting to comments from the Public.

Michael Katz (Liberty Fine Upholstery) said he owns the business/building next to 157 South Main Street. He explained that he had problems with water coming into his business from this property and upon contacting the owner he has had very little to no response when asked if they had insurance. As a result he hired a company (Prestige) to put spray foam and a silicone base on into his roof. He said the stability of the wall is a danger to the all the people that are in his place of business.

Mr. Katz said at this point he is looking for direction from the Board as he is interested in purchasing the building. He said being in the furniture business for forty plus years he has many people he can reach out to for assistance with this undertaking.

The Board explained it is currently still in the owner's name, once the foreclosure process gets underway it will revert to the County and once that happens they will deed it over to the Village. The problem has been with the pandemic the process has been pushed back a couple of times.

The Board suggested that the quickest route may be to begin the process by talking with his lawyer and seeing if he can purchase it directly.

Mr. Katz said one idea he was tossing around was the possibility of a strip mall where some of the restaurants/stores could move into a fresh facility.

The Board asked Mr. Katz to develop a plan for the property and put in writing some of his proposed ideas for the space.

ATTORNEY Attorney Silver said his comments will be related to agenda items.

COMMENTS:

TREAS. REPORT: Treasurer Zurawski said her written report will be presented at the next board meeting.

TABLED BUSINESS: UPDATE ON 157 SOUTH MAIN STREET

The Board said this item will remain tabled until the foreclosure process can take place.

UPDATE OF SANITATION/RECYCLING CODE

The Board said they were still looking to add a few more items and changes to the code, including the possibility of requiring strip malls to have outdoor garbage receptacles. This item will remain **tabled** until the board can finish up the process.

UPDATE OF CODE 87-34/ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

This item will remain **tabled** until the board can be very specific about what they want to allow and once they discuss it a new local law can be drafted.

CONSIDER RESOLUTION – HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

RESOL.# 12-2022: Motion by Trustee Feasel, seconded by Trustee Lake and unanimously carried approving #12-2022.

WHEREAS, the Village of Liberty with the assistance from the university at Albany’s Albany Visualization and Informatics Labs (AVAIL), has gathered information and prepared the County of Sullivan’s Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Hazard Mitigation Plan has been prepared in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Liberty is a local unit government that has afforded the citizens an opportunity to comment and provide input in the Plan and the actions in the Plan; and

WHEREAS, Village of Liberty has reviewed the Plan and affirms that the Plan will be updated no less than every five years;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees that the Village of Liberty adopts the Sullivan County Hazard Mitigation Plan as this jurisdiction’s Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, and resolved to execute the actions in the Plan.

Adopted this 3rd day of February 2022 at the meeting of the Village of Liberty Board of Trustees

NEW BUSINESS: ROY RYSINGER – JCO ENVIROMENTAL

Roy Rysinger (JCO) discussed the needs of the Village, stating that when they first came on board at the Waste Water Treatment Plant it was due to a staffing crisis and formed a contract with the Village that was on a month by month basis. He said now, understanding the staffing needs, they can provide another staff member, who will be trained at JCO that will have the proper licensing and will stay at the Village facility. He mentioned they are in the process of training a Village resident.

He also stated it will be beneficial to work with Delaware Engineering and they will be reaching out to them.

As far as background, Roy said they are currently in thirty-six (36) Waste Water Treatment Plants in the State. He encouraged the Village to reach out to their references.

Mayor Stoddard thanked him for the presentation and said the Village will review the contract and get back to him.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Stoddard opened the meeting to comments from the Public

There were no comments.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS: Mayor Stoddard opened the meeting to comments from the Board.

Trustee Feasel – No Comment

Trustee Mir – No Comment

Trustee Lake – No Comment

Mayor Stoddard welcomed Trustee Lake to the Board.

APPROVAL POST AUDIT VOUCHERS OF BILLS

FOR PYMT: Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried approving Post Audit Voucher #1672 to Voucher #1677 in the amount of \$338,739.94.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Lake and unanimously carried to go into Executive Session at 7:25 p.m. to discuss employment history of employees in the Water, Sewer and D.P.W.

Motion by Trustee Feasel, seconded by Trustee Lake and unanimously carried to come out of Executive Session at 8:11 p.m.

ADJOURN: Motion by Trustee Lake, seconded by Trustee Mir and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting.

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:11 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

**JUDY H. ZURAWSKI
CLERK-TREASURER**

