

REGULAR MEETING

DECEMBER 12, 2024

The Board of Trustees held the Regular Meeting on December 12, 2024 at 7:00 P.M. in the Village Municipal Building, 167 North Main Street, Liberty New York. Mayor Joan Stoddard opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT: Mayor Joan Stoddard, Trustee Ernest Feasel, and Trustee Jayneen Mills. Also Present: Gary Silver, Attorney for the Village and Judy Zurawski, Clerk/Treasurer.

ABSENT: Trustee Eveleese Lake, Trustee Robert Mir and Denise Corbett, Secretary to the Board

ALSO PRESENT: David Ohman, Delaware Engineering; Dan Fagnani, Delaware Engineering; Motty Hemlich and Abraham Mizrahi.

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

❖ **WORKSESSION MEETING – November 21, 2024**

CORRESPONDENCE: Mayor Stoddard said the Village received the following incoming correspondence during this time frame.

- ❖ E-Mail from Damascus Citizens Re: Incinerator
- ❖ Letter from L. Eklund Re: Various Matter 12-2-24

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

Abraham Mizrahi (Main Street Business owner) discussed several issues he is dealing with as he rehabs his building:

- ❖ Discussed the possible private pickup of his garbage from his buildings. He said it would be easier to have his own company pickup daily so that garbage does not accumulate.

Mayor Stoddard told him to begin by writing the request letter.

- ❖ Discussed signage, which he will address with the Code Enforcement Officer.
- ❖ Discussed several other issues, such as roof runoff and piping, which he has been working with David Burke to resolve the issues.

ATTORNEY Attorney Silver discussed the Zoning Code/Commercial Zone and the possible **COMMENTS:** change of use for the old Picalo restaurant, possible car wash and apartments and the old Yaun Company building, who would also like to put in apartments

Attorney Silver said he would draw up the Local Law.

TREAS. REPORT: Treasurer Zurawski said she had a couple items to discuss, that involved contracts.

TABLED BUSINESS: DELAWARE ENGINEERING UPDATE

David Ohman and Dan Fagnani attended the meeting and presented their report - See Exhibit A.

UPDATE ON SUB-COMMITTEES

Peddler's Permits

The local law has been completed and will be considered for adoption tonight

Speed Reduction

The sub-committee of Mayor Stoddard, Trustee Lake and Police Chief D'Agata have been researching the issue. To start the process the Police Chief is having his department do more radar readings to spot problem areas.

Parking

Police Chief D'Agata is reviewing the recommended changes.

Noise Ordinance

The sub-committee of Trustee Mills, Trustee Feasel and Police Chief D'Agata are looking at suggestions on how to handle the Noise Ordinance.

HONK

Mayor Stoddard and Trustee Lake are reviewing this matter and will report back to the Board.

DISCUSSION OF WATER RATES

There is nothing new to report on this matter, as David Bunce has not brought forth his calculations.

UPDATE ON TAX PARCELS 120.-1-3 & 121.-3-7.2

Attorney Silver said the County is going to fix the one issue in committee and strongly suggests the Village consider selling the other parcel.

NEW BUSINESS: CONSIDER BINGO AND GAMES OF CHANCE – LIBERTY ELKS

Bingo License

Motion by Trustee Feasel, seconded by Trustee Mills and unanimously carried approving the **Bingo License** for **Liberty Elks Lodge 1545**.

This bingo license is for the period of January 5, 2025 until December 28, 2025.

Games of Cance License

Motion by Trustee Feasel, seconded by Trustee Mills and unanimously carried approving the **2025 Games of Chance License** for the **Liberty Elks Lodge 1545**.

CONSIDER LOCAL LAW RE: PEDDLERS PERMIT

Motion by Trustee Mills, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried approving Local Law #5-2024. This local law will replace Chapter 41 of the Village Code of the Village Code with a new Chapter 41 entitled Hawking and Peddling.

The local law was put to a vote, which resulted as follows:

MAYOR STODDARD	-	YES	
TRUSTEE MILLS	-	YES	
TRUSTEE FEASEL	-	YES	<u>ADOPTED</u>
TRUSTEE MIR	-	ABSENT	
TRUSTEE LAKE	-	ABSENT	

SET PUBLIC HEARING - LOCAL LAW #1-2025 – NOTICE MAILING ZBA AND PLANNING BOARD PERMITS

Motion by Trustee Feasel, seconded by Trustee Mills and unanimously carried to set a Public Hearing on Thursday, January 2, 2025 at 6:55 p.m. to take and hear comments pertaining to proposed Local Law #1-2025 which will require notice to be given to property owners within 300 feet for public hearings before the Planning and Zoning Board of Appeals.

AUTHORIZE MAYOR STODDARD TO EXECUTE GRANT AGREEMENT – LIBERTY THEATER

Motion by Trustee Mills, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried authorizing Mayor Stoddard to execute the **Grant Disbursement Agreement** between the **Village of Liberty and Davidson Sullivan Realty LLC** for the project

entitled **Liberty Theater Restoration Capital** in the amount of **\$1,000,000**. The funding source is Restore NY Comm 17-18.

CONSIDER ALLOWING THE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO PROSECUTE VILLAGE ORDINANCE ARRESTS IN TOWN COURT

RESOL. # 52-2024: Motion by Trustee Mills, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried approving Resolution #52-2024.

WHEREAS, the Village of Liberty Board of Trustees authorizes the Village of Liberty Police Department to prosecute violations of the village code in the Town Justice Court of the Town of Liberty;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; this resolution will take effect immediately.

CONSIDER SET UP AND FUND AN ACCOUNT – ENGINEERING PLANNING GRANT

Motion by Trustee Feasel, seconded by Trustee Mills and unanimously carried authorizing the Village Clerk to set up \$60,000 from the Sewer Fund to pay for all engineering services until Sanitary System Evaluation I & I Engineering Planning Grant (EPG) is fully reimbursed.

Trustee Stoddard mentioned the General Fund will have to lend the money to sewer to open the account.

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

There were no comments from the Public.

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

Trustee Feasel – No Comment

Trustee Mills – No Comment

Mayor Stoddard asked that a memorandum be sent from her regarding the tight fiscal restraints the Village is under and advising no purchases be made unless it involves the health and welfare of Village residents.

BILLS FOR Post Audit Vouchers

PAYMENT: Motion by Trustee Mills, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried approving the payment of Post Audit Voucher #531 to Voucher #538 in the amount of \$475,686.96.

December Bills for payment

Motion by Trustee Mills, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried approving Voucher #539 to Voucher #616 in the amount of \$911,031.40, with the following exceptions:

- Voucher # 588 - \$488,517
- Voucher # 590 - \$190,348

These vouchers will be paid by February 1st.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by Trustee Mills, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried to go into Executive Session at 8:30 p.m. to discuss a contract issue.

Judy Zurawski was invited into the Executive Session.

Motion made by Trustee Feasel, seconded by Trustee Mills to come out of the Executive Session at 8:45 p.m.

ADJOURN: Motion by Trustee Feasel, seconded by Trustee Mills and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:45 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

JUDY H. ZURAWSKI, CLERK-TREASURER