

Minutes of the Interlaken Village Board of Trustees meeting held on Thursday, 11 August 2022 at the Village Hall and via GoTo Meeting.

Members Present: Mayor Richardson, Trustee Bergren, Trustee Del Plato, Trustee Kempf, Trustee Pepper.

Others Present: Fire Chief Borden, Clerk/Treasurer Swartwood, Deputy Clerk Quan.
via GoTo Meeting: DPW Supervisor Ahouse.

Public Present: None.

via GoTo Meeting: Kevin and Michele Barr, Town of Covert Supervisor Reynolds, Phil Stannard.

Mayor Richardson called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes:

Del Plato motioned, Bergren seconded, to accept the minutes from 14 July 2022 meeting; carried.

Public to be Heard:

Kevin and Michele Barr spoke of a resident in the village establishing a small game farm that includes a moat. Richardson advised he has not seen a required animal permit, adding suspected infractions should be reported via e-mail to Code Enforcement.

Library:

There is no report.

JG3 Excavating, awarded the contract for the driveway project, began removing trees. DPW's permit is only for the maintenance of water and sewer systems; they will expedite one needed for working on the driveway.

The alarm system battery has been replaced.

Fire:

There were ten, mostly pretty big, calls in July,

Residents are still burning in the village.

Service on the trucks is complete. Engine 503 continues to have issues with its lights; something which needs to be addressed. The cost or repair is expected to be high. Richardson reported he has not received responses of request for service. Borden and Rob Bailey will examine the lighting system to see if they could do something to repair the system.

Borden spoke of the importance of fire contacts staying up-to-date in order to address the rising costs of fuel, maintenance, utilities, and equipment. Borden, Reynolds, and Richardson will meet at 4 PM on Thursday, 18 August to discuss the fire contract.

A pump test still needs to be done. Hose testing was done in Ovid because of water conservation needs, but the pump test will need to be done in Interlaken.

50' of 5" and 50' of 1³/₄" hose needs to be replaced; sections will be ordered because they have no spares. Orders are being fulfilled more than a year later. There may be a Rochester company that could clean, repair, and certify sections; typically, the work is completed within seven days.

Getting ready for car show; things look good. Cost of chicken came down. Corn and watermelon, something different, from Wycoff Farms will be offered.

Interlaken Fire Department will work with Trumansburg, Mecklenburg, and Endfield units at the Trumansburg Fair on 23, 26-28 August. Borden spoke positively of working with these departments they don't get to work with regularly.

A new valve went bad at the firehouse already; Ahouse ordered a spare.

A bill, approved by the County Board of Supervisors, Representatives, and Senators, providing a tax exemption on property owned by active members of Volunteer Firefighter companies or Volunteer Ambulance services awaits approval by Governor Hochul; the towns of Covert and Ovid and the Village of Interlaken will also need to approve the exemption.

New gear and hose is expected to be shipped at the end of September.

Still waiting on truck drawings from 4 Guys Fire Trucks; received information from KME. There is a two-year lead time on new trucks.

The fire department hosted the Seneca County Fire Chief Association dinner and meeting on 27 July; it was a good turnout.

DPW took down the flag pole at the fire station because the bottom was badly corroded.

Water:

The pressure switch on pump 2 went bad; a replacement has been ordered.

Leak Detection helped locate a leak on the well/pump house line; necessary repairs were done. Replaced meters; ordered more.

Working with HUNT EAS on getting a grant for the generator for the water pump.

Submitted a Request of Variance of the Town of Covert's Land Management Ordinance for the new pump station on the Flagg's property (though no right-of-way or ownership is finalized) in order to streamline the process to construction. Richardson reported a meeting with the Flaggs was to take place, but the meeting needed rescheduling numerous times.

Del Plato inquired about status of water levels and water conservation order; Ahouse reported the mandatory conserve water order remains in effect.

Sewer:

There was a minor plug by the Interlaken Reformed Church, across from the school.

DPW cleaned up and hauled away a large tree downed during the 22 July 22 windstorm; the tree caused minor damage to a fence.

Brush-hogged the transmission line.

Working with HUNT EAS on getting a grant for the sewer project.

Researching if using an AquaLogics Systems control for the Kubota wastewater treatment plant will provide cost savings over a Kubota controlled system.

The new plant will produce significantly more sludge. Without drying, the cost of hauling the sludge will be very expensive. The current space is insufficient; looking to see if the landowners would be willing to sell more land next to the sewer plant.

Streets:

The new truck arrived. The old truck was inspected; the reassurance will, hopefully, help with the sale. It is being cleaned out and prepped for auction.

The diesel exhaust fluid injector went bad on the backhoe. Caterpillar diagnosed it the next day, repairing it three days later. The emission system is still under warranty.

Mowing resumed.

Once the permit is taken care of, DPW will start on the library sidewalk. Richardson announced a meeting with USDA on 30 August for the Knight Street and Mechanic Street projects. A bid, within \$1k of what was budgeted, was received for the Clinton Street project. He reported he is in the process of putting the bid out for the stream embankment repair on the contract reporter and filing for extensions with FEMA for that project in addition to the Clinton Street project. Ahouse and Richardson inquired about using FEMA money to haul away the brush pile; neither received responses.

Treasurer: balances of accounts read.

Swartwood reported a budget modification is necessary to transfer monies for the purchase of the new Ford F-250. Richardson motioned, Del Plato seconded, to make the budget modification; carried.

Approval of Bills: Del Plato motioned, Pepper seconded; carried.

Old Business:

- With Jeff Burns retiring next year, an IT service will need to be found. Conversation ensued about ICS and an ideal service provider would be local in order to make house calls to trouble shoot issues.
- Fire Contract with the Town of Covert to be discussed 18 August at 4 PM; meeting with Town of Ovid Supervisor Joe Borst to be determined.

New Business:

- Public Hearing for proposed Local Law 1 of 2022, a real property tax exemption for certain senior citizens, scheduled for 08 September 2022 at 6:30 PM.
- Richardson reported a single bid (\$16,175.) for Clinton Street, a concrete headwall by the Town barns to replace the collapsing one made from railroad ties. FEMA estimated the project at \$15k, contributing ~\$11k; the ARPA funds could be used to pay for the remainder, if necessary. Ahouse reported he was unable, over the last two years, to find a company interested in the work. ahouse was unable to look at it in the last two years. Conversation about the bid within \$1k of the original estimate and rising costs ensued. Richardson motioned, Bergren seconded, to approve the bid; carried.
- Harassment Prevention and Policy. Pepper motioned, Del Plato seconded, to approve an update (new phone number) to the Harassment Prevention and Policy; carried.
- Harold Stewart requested signs for no parking be put out during Plow Days in September; Richardson advised he would take care of it.
- CWIO Report
 - Erin Norris attended the first meeting of the executive committee.
 - CWIO will introduce her to towns in the watershed that are not participating in the intermunicipal organization; her grant writing skills and familiarity with FEMA can be beneficial to the towns' watershed damage prevention projects.
 - Hobart and William Smith Colleges provided her with an office. It is adjacent to the office of Ian Smith, Seneca Lake Watershed manager.

- Norris will be briefed on the Village of Interlaken's current projects, including Mechanic Street, Knight Street, and the stream embankment.
- Del Plato reported the last HABS report showed only Cayuga Lake with HABS. Conversation about the issue of warm standing water ensued.
- Richardson, Ahouse, and Bergren to speak about recent bids for replacing the tractor.
- Richardson and Del Plato submitted a letter of intent to apply for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative NY Forward grants. Pepper motioned, Del Plato seconded, to seek engineering firms interested in writing the grant; carried.
 - Discussion of fund use for properties on Main Street and the Park for All Ages.

Additional Comments:

Pepper spoke of a resident reporting a broken pane of glass leaning out of third floor window on 8400 Main Street. Conversation about building codes and public safety; Seneca County Code Enforcement can be notified if residents are nonresponsive.

Conversation about Jay Grasso, G&G Municipal Consulting and Grant Writing, missing deadlines and opportunities for grants.

Richardson motioned, Kempf seconded, to exit executive session at 8:07 PM; carried.

Adjournment: Motion by Pepper, Kempf seconded, to adjourn at 7:15 PM; carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Quan, Deputy Village Clerk