**WORKSESSION MEETING**

May 20, 2021

# The Board of Trustees held the Worksession Meeting of May 20, 2021 at

# the Village Municipal Building, 167 North Main Street, Liberty New York.

Mayor Ronald Stabak opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

# 

**PRESENT:** Mayor Ronald Stabak**,** Deputy Mayor/Trustee Joan Stoddard, Trustee Robert Mir, Trustee Daniel Wright and Trustee Victoria Ferguson Also Present: Gary Silver, Attorney for the Village and Judy Zurawski, Clerk/Treasurer.

**ALSO** Police Chief Steven D’Agata and Code Enforcement Officer Daniel Pollan

**PRESENT:**

**APPROVAL** Motion by Trustee Stoddard, seconded by Trustee Ferguson and unanimously

**OF** carried approving the following minutes:

**MINUTES:**

REGULAR MEETING – May 6, 2021

**CORRES-** Mayor Stabak said the following correspondence has been received

**PONDENCE**:and anyone can request copies by calling or email.

Incoming

* NYCOM Advocacy Update – May 12, 2021
* E-Mail Information from Delaware Engineering re: Funding 5.12.21

**TABLED CONSIDER CHILDREN’S HOME – NORTH MAIN STREET**

**BUSINESS:**

Police Chief D’Agata said he spoke with Captain Sutliff-Smith of the Binghamton Police Department who indicated overall they have had a positive experience with the Children’s Home located at 81 Grant Boulevard. She said the issues they do deal with are generally centered on runaways and mental health; however the staff does play a very positive part of the program.

Mayor Stabak said although he is fine with the project moving ahead he still has much hesitancy about seven to seventeen year olds in the same home.

The Board asked Attorney Silver to move ahead with drafting a local law which would amend the DCC zone to provide for a new specially permitted use which would permit Children’s Home, as well as similar facilities, to operate in the DCC Zone.

Once the proposed zoning amendment is reviewed a public hearing can be scheduled.

**CONSIDER SALE OF REVONAH HILL PROPERTY 18-1-1**

Mayor Stabak said since listening to Developer Avi Adiv at the last Board Meeting he has had correspondence from Camp Tashbar who also expressed an interest in the property.

Trustee Ferguson said she has reviewed the matter and discussed the possibility of a future investment or a property value increase over time.

Mayor Stabak said he is leaning toward not selling it at this time.

Trustee Wright was in agreement not to sell it.

Trustee Mir said he was ambivalent over the sale, thinking that it will probably never be a water supply for the Village.

After a brief discussion the Board was in agreement not to sell the property at this time.

**NEW CONSIDER BANNER PERMIT – FARMERS MARKET**

**BUSINESS:**

Motion by Trustee Stoddard, seconded by Trustee Ferguson and unanimously carried approving the Banner Permit for the Liberty Farmers Market which will be put up before June 1st and will be taken down by October 1st.

The Farmers Market is sponsored by Catskill Mountainkeepers with Eugene Thalmann as the contact.

**CONSIDER MUNICIPAY CREDIT CARD SYSTEM**

Motion by Trustee Stoddard, seconded by Trustee Ferguson and unanimously carried to use MuniciPay as a merchant account for Village taxes.

The user will pay a 2.65% credit card processing fee and the company will not charge the village any fees.

There will be a link on our website that will take the person right to the tax program to process their payment. It also allows the residents to pay by electronic check for a $1.50 processing fee.

**CONSIDER VACATION TIME CARRYOVER**

Mayor Stabak said per the CSEA Contract the decision to allow carry over time is made by the Mayor.

He said he will be in touch with Lynn Barry and Mark Kellam to let them know he approved the carryover.

Trustee Ferguson suggested that the D.P.W/Sanitation Workers set up a schedule for time off.

**CONSIDER TAXI LICENSES – 2021/22**

**RESOL.#** Motion by Trustee Stoddard, seconded by Trustee Ferguson and unanimously

**32-2021:** carried approving Resolution #32-2021

WHEREAS, the applications for taxicab licenses (also known as Taxicab permits, such terms being intended to describe the license or permit described as a taxicab permit in the definitions provision in Article 1, Section 75-1 of Chapter 75 of the Village Code), having been submitted by the attached taxi company’s pursuant to the Village Code, such as Sections 75-1 75-1.1, and 75-2 of the Village of Liberty Village Code; and

WHEREAS, the Village Code provides that the existing taxicab permits expire annually on May 31; and

WHEREAS, all permits for taxicab licenses are due to expire June 1, 2021;

WHEREAS, three taxi licenses have been reviewed by the Village of Liberty Police and are now pending before the Village Board; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Village Board of the Village of Liberty hereby issues taxicab permits (also known as a Taxicab license) for the annexed applicants (said taxicab license not to be confused with the taxicab driver’s license issued under Article II of Chapter 75 of the Village Code); and be it further

RESOLVED, that for reference purposes, the three licenses/permits are for:

Community Transportation - 16, 19, 20

**POLICE CHIEF D’AGATA – PARKING ISSUE AND UPDATE ON 157 SOUTH MAIN STREET**

**157 South Main Street – Structural Observation**

Alex Herrmann of Delaware Engineering visited the existing building structure at 157 South Main Street on Wednesday, May 19th at the request of the Village of Liberty Code Enforcement Officer.

Alex reported that from the interior of the building he could observe a partial roof collapse which included failed wood roof trusses and failed lateral bracing. From the exterior the facility is showing signs of significant deterioration including the exterior bearing walls.

Delaware Engineering recommended the Village explore the option of demolishing the facility in its entirety. If it is not demolished it will need sufficient structural repairs.

The Board discussed the possibility of asking local legislators for grant money.

Trustee Stoddard said she would contact Assemblywoman Gunther’s office.

The first step they will take is a discussion with the Landbank to see what options they might be able to recommend as well as seeing if the RUSt Grant Program is still a viable option.

Proposed No Parking Zone on Orchard Street

Police Chief D’Agata discussed the parking problem on Orchard Street as well as the problem the D.P.W. faces every time they plow during a winter storm.

Police Chief D’Agata said a possible solution is to install two “No Parking Between Signs” on Orchard Street which would be located as follows:

258’ South of Edgar Street

228’ South of Edgar Street

On the North East side of the street

Mayor Stabak said there were a couple residents that live on the street that would like to speak at the next meeting.

The Board tabled the request until next meeting

BILLS FOR PAYMENT

Motion by Trustee Stoddard, seconded by Trustee Ferguson and unanimously carried approving Voucher #875 to Voucher #951 in the amount of $228,525.36.

**EXECUTIVE** Motion by Trustee Stoddard, seconded by Trustee Mir and unanimously

**SESSION:** to go into Executive Session at 7:45 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter in the Police Department as well as receive legal advice from the Village Attorney. Police Chief D’Agata was invited into the meeting.

Motion by Trustee Stoddard, seconded by Trustee Ferguson and unanimously carried to come out of Executive Session at 8:33 p.m.

**CONSIDER HOURLY RATES OF PAY**

Motion by Trustee Stoddard, seconded by Trustee Wright and unanimously carried approving the following pay rate increases:

Greg Brewer - $22/hr. (from $20/hr.)

Neftali Reyes - $17/hr. (from $15/hr.)

Jeffrey Ashdown - $17/hr. (from $15/hr.)

The increases will take effect June 1, 2021.

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

**THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:34 P.M.**

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**

**JUDY H. ZURAWSKI**

**CLERK-TREASURER**

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