

REGULAR MEETING

JANUARY 5, 2023

The Board of Trustees held the Regular Meeting on January 5, 2023 at 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, Deputy Mayor/Trustee Robert Mir, and Trustee Eveleese Lake. Also Present: Gary Silver, Attorney for the Village and Judy Zurawski, Clerk/Treasurer.

ABSENT: Trustee Ernest Feasel and Trustee Daniel Wright

ALSO PRESENT: Police Chief Steven D'Agata, Motty Heimlich, Richard Manzi, Ysdirabelinna Manzi and Joe Aracci.

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

REGULAR MEETING - DECEMBER 21, 2022

CORRESPONDENCE: Mayor Stoddard said the Village has not received any correspondence since the last meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There were no comments from the Public.

ATTORNEY COMMENTS: Attorney Silver said his comments are all on agenda items.

TREAS. REPORT: Treasurer Zurawski said she would have her report at the next meeting.

TABLED BUSINESS: CONSIDER CODE ENFORCEMENT FEES

Mayor Stoddard said she met with Trustee Lake and they reviewed the Code Enforcement fees as well as some of the other Village fees. She said they made adjustments which they feel are appropriate. She said they will update the list for the Board to review.

CONSIDER PROPOSED LOCAL LAW - #1-2023 - TRASH REMOVAL

Motion by Trustee Lake, seconded by Trustee Mir and unanimously carried to schedule a Public Hearing on Thursday, February 2, 2023 at 6:55 p.m. to consider proposed Local Law #1-2023 - to amend Section 35-7.A of the Village

Code to correct some language and confirm that garbage and items in Section 35.3.A may not be brought into the Village of Liberty.

CONSIDER INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE VILLAGE OF LIBERTY AND THE LIBERTY CENTRAL SCHOOL

RESOL. # 1-2023 Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Lake and unanimously carried approving Resolution #1-2023

WHEREAS, the Village of Liberty Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative Plan of 2021 included a recommendation that the Village of Liberty Police Department and the Liberty Central School District establish an internship whereby high school students can work directly with School Resource Officers and other officers in an effort to educate students about law enforcement, create an interest in law enforcement careers and enhance efforts to expand diversity within the Police Department and;

WHEREAS, the Liberty Central School District seeks to provide such internship opportunities in collaboration with the Village of Liberty Police Department through the Liberty Law Enforcement and Discovering Success (“Liberty LEADS”) eight-week internship and mentoring program which will offer students a chance to observe officers, dispatchers and detectives and obtain knowledge and tools to prepare them to navigate the law enforcement hiring process and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, in consideration of this program the Village Board of the Village of Liberty approves the Intermunicipal Agreement with the Liberty School District this 5th day of January 2023 and authorizes the Agreement to be executed by Mayor Joan Stoddard and Police Chief Steven D’Agata.

NEW BUSINESS: **CONSIDER ELECTION INSPECTORS FOR THE MARCH 2023 ELECTIONS**

Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Lake and unanimously carried approving the following election inspectors for the March 21, 2023 Elections:

DEMOCRAT

Matthew Frumess
William Liblick

REPUBLICAN

Mark Doland
Charles Tyler

CONSIDER 2023 SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH PARTNERS IN SAFETY

Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Lake and unanimously carried to continue the contract with Partners in Safety for 2023 for the Village’s random alcohol and drug testing needs. The cost for the 2023 Complete DOT Agreement will be \$49.00 per employee.

CONSIDER AGREEMENT INTER-MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT WITH COUNTY OF SULLIVAN

RESOL.# 2-2023: Motion by Trustee Lake, seconded by Mir and unanimously carried approving Resolution #2-2023.

WHEREAS, the Village is desirous to enter into this Agreement with the County pursuant to General Municipal Law Article 5-G. This Agreement shall permit the County to act as an agent for the Village and enforce the Village's authority and powers under Article 11 of the Real Property Tax Law and the County's local laws and/or customs ("Article 11") and;

WHEREAS, this Agreement details the duties and obligations of the County and Village in regard to the County aiding the Village in enforcing foreclosure proceedings against parcels of real property that have delinquent real property taxes due and owing to the Village and;

WHEREAS, this Agreement shall be for an initial term commencing on November 1, 2022 and terminating on October 31, 2023 and the Agreement may be extended for four (4) additional one year terms upon mutual consent of the parties;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Village Board of the Village of Liberty approves the Intermunicipal Agreement with the County of Sullivan this 5th day of January 2023 and authorizes the Agreement to be executed by Mayor Joan Stoddard.

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

Richard and Ysdirabelinna Manzi (owner of 10 School Street) discussed the issue they are having with Village residents and non-residents using their dumpster for their garbage. They said after speaking with the Code Enforcement Officer he said the way the law currently reads there is nothing that permits people from dumping in them.

Mayor Stoddard said the problem is currently being addressed and that on February 2nd the Board is having a Public Hearing and will be adopting a local law that addresses this issue. It will become law within a few days after that date.

Mayor Stoddard also suggested the possibility of keeping the dumpster locked until the night before the garbage pickup to keep as many people from dumping as possible.

Motty Heimlich asked if the Village would be interested in construction on the vacant lots on North Delaware Avenue.

Mayor Stoddard said that they are owned by the Sullivan County Land Bank and he would have to talk to them.

Trustee Mir mentioned that the mission of the Land Bank is to put single family homes back on the tax rolls so it would have to be something that would generate tax revenue for the Village.

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

COMMENTS:

Trustee Lake – No Comment

Trustee Mir – No Comment

Mayor Stoddard discussed the possibility of changing the speed limit on Main Street to 25 Miles per Hour, which can be done by Local Law. She said that Lynn (DPW Supervisor) has contacts with the N.Y.S.D.O.T. and will discuss the speed limits with them for the part that is maintained by D.O.T.

**APPROVAL POST AUDIT VOUCHERS
OF BILLS**

FOR PYMT: Motion by Trustee Lake, seconded by Trustee Mir and unanimously carried approving Post Audit Voucher #2651 to Voucher #2661 in the amount of \$1,703,711.77.

EXECUTIVE Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Lake and unanimously carried
SESSION: to go into Executive Session at 7:31 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter in the Police Department. Police Chief D'Agata was invited into the meeting.

Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Lake and unanimously carried to come out of Executive Session at 7:35 p.m.

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

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 7:36 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

**JUDY H. ZURAWSKI
CLERK-TREASURER**

