

## INTRODUCTION AND SWEARING IN OF NEW POLICE OFFICER

Police Chief D'Agata introduced Police Officer Anthony Ventura to the Board. Officer Ventura has earned his degree in Criminal Justice and successfully completed his police academy training in 2010. Officer Ventura brings a considerable amount of experience to his police officer position and will carry out the department's mission of public safety.

Mayor Stoddard administered the Oath of Office to Officer Anthony Ventura.

## **REGULAR MEETING**

### **APRIL 7, 2022**

The Board of Trustees held the Regular Meeting of April 7, 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 and James Gordon (arrived at 7:35 p.m.)

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

**WORKSESSION MEETING - MARCH 17, 2022**

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Mayor Stoddard said the Village has sent and received the following correspondence

**Incoming**

❖ Memorandum: County of Sullivan Re: 2022 Striping 3.9.22

**Outgoing**

❖ Letter to Liberty Fire Department, Backup Fire Departments and Rolling V Bus Company 3.21.22

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Mayor Stoddard opened the meeting to comments from the Public.  
There were no comments from the Public.

**ATTORNEY COMMENTS:** Attorney Silver said his comments will be limited to agenda items

**TREAS. REPORT:**

Treasurer Zurawski’s written report is summarized below:

- ❖ List of Current Taxes and collections thru 03/31/22 of which there is \$236,309.34 outstanding. The current taxes are 95% collected.
- ❖ List of Delinquent Taxes, which as of 03/31/22 is \$372,275.09 not collected.
- ❖ Starting and Ending Central Check Numbers for March 2022
- ❖ Starting March 2022 Central Check #17289
- ❖ Financial comparison of General, Water, Sewer and Sanitation

Treasurer Zurawski said two meetings (April 19<sup>th</sup> and April 21<sup>st</sup>) have been set up with employees to discuss the MVP option for health insurance.

**CONSIDER WRITE OFF OF CDBG LOANS**

Motion by Trustee Lake, seconded by Trustee Mir and unanimously carried to write off the following CDBG Loan:

**Diamond Graphx - \$7,833.29**

The principal of the company has passed away

Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried to write off the following CDBG Loans:

<b>The Oracle Bookstore</b>	-	<b>\$27,262.39</b>
<b>Cesar Alfaro</b>	-	<b>\$17,070.15</b>

The principals of these companies are unable to be located.

Attorney Silver said he would also look into the Bankruptcy paperwork for Cyber Shack and Goal Post.

**TABLED BUSINESS: UPDATE ON 157 SOUTH MAIN STREET**

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

**CONSIDER PROPOSED LOCAL LAW #1-2022 – CHAPTER 61**

Motion by Trustee Lake, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried approving local law #1-2022 to amend portions of Chapter 61 of the Village Code. Chapter 61 addresses recycling in the Village.

The Local Law was put to a vote, which resulted as follows:

MAYOR JOAN STODDARD - YES

TRUSTEE ROBERT MIR	-	YES	<b>LOCAL LAW #</b>
TRUSTEE ERNEST FEASEL	-	YES	<b>1-2022</b>
TRUSTEE EVELEESE LAKE	-	YES	<b>ADOPTED</b>
TRUSTEE DANIEL WRIGHT	-	ABSENT	

**UPDATE OF CODE 87-34/ANIMALS IN THE VILLAGE**

The Board said they would review the information they received. Attorney Silver said he would add any requests to the draft.

**UPDATE ON FLOWER THE VILLAGE – SUMMER 2022**

Mayor Stoddard said the Town has committed to watering the flower baskets.

Mayor Stoddard reported that sixty flower baskets have been ordered from Monticello Greenhouses at a cost of \$39.00 per basket.

**NEW BUSINESS: CONSIDER MEDICAL TAXI PERMIT – AMERICARE TRANSPORTATION**

**RESOL.# 23-2022:** Motion by Trustee Feasel, seconded by Trustee Lake and unanimously carried approving Resolution #23-2022:

**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, 2022;

**WHEREAS**, one medical taxi license has been reviewed by the Village of Liberty Police and is now pending before the Village Board; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Village Board of the Village of Liberty hereby issues one medical taxicab permit (also known as a Medical Taxicab license) for the annexed applicant (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 one license/permit is for:

**AmeriCare Transportation – 1 Medical Permit**

**CONSIDER PAYMENT TO EFRAIN GONZALEZ – DAMAGED CAR/SNOW STORM**

Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried approving the payment of \$600.00 for the damage sustained to Efrain Pena Gonzalez’s (19 Chestnut Street) car during a snow storm.

Mr. Gonzalez will have to sign a General Release form in front of a Notary Public.

**CONSIDER RESOLUTION – ARPA FUNDING**

**RESOL.# 24-2022:** Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried approving Resolution #24-2022.

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Liberty is eligible to receive a cumulative total of \$430,665.38 in American Rescue (ARPA) funding;

**WHEREAS**, the first payment of \$215,332.69 was received in the summer of 2021;

**WHEREAS**, the second payment of \$215,332.69 is slated to be received in the summer of 2022;

**WHEREAS**, as of April 30, 2022 the first annual report is due on the expenditure of these funds for the period of March 3, 2021 – March 31, 2022;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** the report will include the following expenditures:

**CDBG Application - 49,000**  
- Failing Sewer System off Lake Street  
(this money is earmarked but has not been expended)

**Premium Pay for Police Department and  
General Government Support - \$166,332.69**  
(this money has been expended)

**CONSIDER SPRING CLEANUP**

**RESOL. # 25-2022:** Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried approving Resolution #25-2022.

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Liberty Board of Trustees approves the Spring 2022 Clean-Up as follows:

**VILLAGE OF LIBERTY  
2022 SPRING CLEAN-UP**

**Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>**  
**Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>**  
**Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup>**  
**Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>**  
**Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>**  
**Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup>**  
**Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup>**

## **VILLAGE RESIDENTS ONLY**

All items for clean-up must be taken by Village Residents to the Village of Liberty Street Department garage at 46 Elm Street. No items will be accepted without a permit showing Village residency which can be obtained at the Village Clerk's Office 167 North Main Street between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

**METAL WILL BE ACCEPTED. NO large stumps or rocks. NO household garbage. NO batteries. NO tires. NO hazardous waste. NO yard debris. No Fuel Tanks, Oil Drums and Propane Tanks. NO Paint. NO Electronic Equipment**

Village crews **will not** make pick-ups at individual residences and the Sanitation Department **will not** take items left out for clean-up.

Hours of Operation:

Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> - 8:00 A.M.–12:00 P.M.  
 Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup> - 8:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.  
 Monday, May 16<sup>th</sup> – Friday May 20<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 A.M-2:30 P.M.

After the Villages allotment is used up, the gates will be closed.

This program is made possible by the Sullivan County Legislature.

### **CONSIDER EAST COAST INDUSTRIAL SERVICES – STREET SWEEPING**

Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Lake and unanimously carried to contract with East Coast Industrial Services, Inc. to sweep all paved streets/areas of the Village of Liberty. The cost will be \$130.00 per hour with a 5 hour minimum per day. There will also be a \$50.00 mobilization fee per day.

The Village will be responsible for the water and the dump site.

Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Lake to withdraw the motion until more information can be obtained about the company by Department of Public Works Supervisor Lynn Barry.

### **CONSIDER RESOLUTION TO JOIN THE SULLIVAN O&W RAIL TRAIL ALLIANCE**

The Board **tabled** this item until more information can be obtained about the By-Laws of the Rail Trail Alliance.

**CONSIDER EMERGENCY PURCHASE FOR THE WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT**

Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried approving the **Emergency Purchase** of Netzsch pump equipment (electric motor and reducer) from GP Jager Inc. located in Boonton, New Jersey at a cost not to exceed \$7,500.

This motor/reducer is needed at the Waste Water Treatment Plant as the current one is failing.

**CONSIDER CHANGE ORDER NO. 2 – WWTP UPGRADES**

**RESOL. # 26-2022:** Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Lake and unanimously carried approving Resolution #26-2022:

**WHEREAS**, projects funded through the CWSFF and WIIA programs must comply with all Davis-Bacon Act Requirements;

10- **WHEREAS**, at the time of the bid opening they did not comply with the Davis-Bacon Act day rule (federal wage rates updated greater than 10-days before close of solicitation at bid opening must be amended with current wage rates);

**WHEREAS**, New York State Environmental Facilities Corp has requested that the Village amend the federal wage rates, Contract Specifications, Exhibit B – U.S. Department of Labor Davis-Bacon Wage Rates, to be current at the close of solicitation or bid opening, by change order to remain in compliance with the Davis Bacon Act Requirements;

**WHEREAS**, the contract sum will remain unchanged;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Liberty resolves to:

- o Authorize Mayor Stoddard to execute Change Order No. 2 for the Davis Bacon Wage Rate for the General Contract V1-G-21 – General Construction resulting in no change to the contract cost.
- o Authorize Mayor Stoddard to execute Change Order No. 2 for the Davis Bacon Wage Rate for the General Contract V1-E-21 – Electrical Construction resulting in no change to the contract cost.
- o Authorize Mayor Stoddard to execute Change Order No. 2 for the Davis Bacon Wage Rate for the General Contract V1-P-21 – Plumbing Construction resulting in no change to the contract cost.
- o Authorize Mayor Stoddard to execute Change Order No. 2 for the Davis Bacon Wage Rate for the General Contract V1-H-21 – HVAC Construction resulting in no change to the contract cost.

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

James Gordon (Lake Street) said he is saddened to see NYSEG leave Liberty.

James Gordon commented about the housing market in Liberty.

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

**COMMENTS:**

Trustee Feasel – No Comment

Trustee Mir mentioned that Mark Johnstone is now the Fire Chief for the Liberty Fire Department. He said he did a wonderful job at the Barclay Garden Apartment fire.

Trustee Lake – No Comment

Mayor Stoddard congratulated Mark Johnstone on becoming Fire Chief.

**APPROVAL POST AUDIT VOUCHERS  
OF BILLS**

**FOR PYMT:** Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried approving Post Audit Voucher #1840 to Voucher #1845 in the amount of \$344,848.81.

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

**THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:00 P.M.**

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,**

**JUDY H. ZURAWSKI  
CLERK-TREASURER**





