

REGULAR MEETING

APRIL 6, 2023

The Board of Trustees held the Regular Meeting on April 6, 2023 at the Village Municipal Building, 167 North Main Street, Liberty New York. Mayor Joan Stoddard opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried to go into Executive Session at 6:15 p.m. to discuss a personnel matter in the Water/D.P.W./Sanitation Department.

Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried to come out of Executive Session at 6:50 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Joan Stoddard, Deputy Mayor/Trustee Robert Mir, Trustee Ernest Feasel, and Trustee Joe Aracci. Also Present: Gary Silver, Attorney for the Village and Judy Zurawski, Clerk/Treasurer.

ABSENT: Trustee Eveleese Lake

ALSO PRESENT: Police Sergeant Everett Saul, Dara Smith, Erin Smith and Mark Blauer

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

WORKSESSION MEETING - MARCH 16, 2023

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

INCOMING

- ❖ E-Mail from S. Cilento Re: Sullivan 180 Open House on 4.12
- ❖ Memo from PO Vogler Re: Street Lights

OUTGOING

- ❖ Letter to Congressman Molinaro Re: Old Rte 17 Corridor 3.17.23

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 are all on agenda items.

TREAS. REPORT: Treasurer Zurawski's written report is summarized below:

- ❖ List of Current Taxes and collections thru 03/31/23 of which there is \$231,634.44 outstanding. The current taxes are 94.65% collected.
- ❖ List of Delinquent Taxes, which as of 03/31/23 there is \$240,075.25 uncollected.
- ❖ Starting and Ending Central Check Numbers for March 2023
- ❖ Starting March 2023 Central Check #18258
- ❖ Financial comparison of General, Water, Sewer and Sanitation

The Village Board will continue their Budget Worksession on Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

TABLED PUBLIC HEARING ON CODE 87-26
BUSINESS:

The Public Hearing on Village code 87-26 has been set for April 20, 2023 at 6:55 p.m.

The local law is currently at the County for 239-m review.

CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS ON TEXTMYGOV

The Board said they would like to review the services offered by Nixle before making a decision on this matter.

UPDATE ON SULLIVAN 180 GRANT

Trustee Feasel said the grant is complete and will be mailed in tomorrow.

UPDATE ON PRIVATE SALE OF 121.-3-7.2

Attorney Silver said that Mr. Patel has not responded to the offer presented by the Village.

UPDATE ON PARKING LOT SALE – DAVIDSON

Mayor Stoddard said in order to sell the parking lot on Church Street it must first be declared surplus (not needed by the Village) and once it is deemed as surplus it could be sold at fair market value.

Mayor Stoddard went on to say that she has been observing the usage of this parking lot and it appears to be used by many Village residents on a regular basis.

The Board determined, at this point, that it could not be declared surplus.

Mayor Stoddard said she would be in touch with Bruce Davidson and let him know the Village could not accommodate his request.

UPDATE ON CROWD MANAGEMENT

The Board discussed the proposed Crowd Management for the Liberty Theatre. The regulations of the State Fire Code state it is required for over 500 people and the maximum the Liberty Theatre will accommodate is 299.

The Board did not feel Crowd Management requirements were necessary at this point.

UPDATE ON CDBG LOAN APPLICATION – IMMACULATE CONCEPTS

Mayor Stoddard said she and Trustee Lake will be meeting the week of April 10th to discuss this application. She said at that point she will discuss everything with Joel Gandulla.

Attorney Silver said it is always best to have a personal guarantee on the loan.

NEW BUSINESS: CONSIDER PAYMENT OF INVOICE RE: GARBAGE TRUCK/308 NORTH MAIN STREET

Motion by Trustee Aracci, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried approving the payment to Alro Products International, LLC. in the amount of \$329.40.

This is for the invoice from Bedik Communications to fix wires that were accidently ripped by our Sanitation Truck.

The payment of this invoice will require a **General Release** by the owners of Alro Products International, LLC.

CONSIDER RATIFICATION OF NEW AGREEMENT – H2O

Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried to ratify the new contract presented by H2O Innovations on March 16, 2023 and to authorize Mayor Stoddard to execute the same.

This contract amends the name change from JCO to H2O Innovations and changes the CPI increases to the contract to a flat 1%.

CONSIDER SPRING CLEAN-UP DATES

RESOL. # 25-2023: Motion by Trustee Aracci, seconded by Trustee Mir and unanimously carried Resolution #25-2023.

WHEREAS, the Village of Liberty Board of Trustees approves the 2023 Spring Cleanup as follows;

**VILLAGE OF LIBERTY
2023 SPRING CLEAN-UP**

Monday, May 8th
Tuesday, May 9th
Wednesday, May 10th
Thursday, May 11th
Friday, May 12th
Saturday, May 13th
Sunday, May 14th

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:

Monday, May 8th - Friday, May 12th - 6:30 A.M - 2:30 P.M.

Saturday, May 13th - 8:00 A.M.–12:00 P.M.

Sunday, May 14th - 8:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

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

DISCUSS INTER-MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT WITH TOL RE: SEWER DISTRICT

This item will be held until the next meeting so that more research can be done on the matter.

CONSIDER CORRECTION OF ERRORS- TAX MAP #107-3-12

RESOL. # 26-2023: Motion by Trustee Feasel, seconded by Trustee Aracci and unanimously carried approving Resolution #26-2023.

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 550-3(b) of the Real Property Tax Law Maria J. Rivera claimed an **Error in Essential Fact** on the 2020 and 2021 tax rolls and;

WHEREAS, this **Error in Essential Fact** was investigated and does exist and;

WHEREAS, due to the incorrect entry on the taxable portion of the assessment roll, therefore Pursuant to Section 556 of the Real Property Tax Law, the tax payer is entitled to the following refunds:

2020/21 Roll	-	\$141.74
2021/22 Roll	-	\$157.61

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approves the Recommended Refunds for each tax year listed above.

Clerk-Treasurer Zurawski said she would contact the Assessor about the matter of the garage and make sure it was reassessed to the right owner and a Prorata/Omit was done for the change.

CONSIDER EVENT PERMIT – SEPTEMBER 9, 2023

Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried approving the **Event Permit** submitted by Martin Colavito, 173 Parksville Road, Liberty NY for an Event to be held on **September 9, 2023** at Creekside Park.

This Event is an annual event to celebrate all who live in Liberty as well as the County. It is a collaboration between the Liberty Police Department, Sullivan Allies Leading Together and various Community Partners.

The Event will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

CONSIDER SEWER CREDIT – CATSKILL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT – WATER/SEWER ACCOUNT #5-1700

Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Aracci and unanimously carried approving the sewer credit for Account #5-1700 in the amount of \$2,013.61 for the March and June Bill.

This was due to a leak that was found in the basement.

Matthew MacArthur of the Water Department confirmed it did not go into the sewer system.

CONSIDER GENERAL ENGINEERING SERVICES CONTRACT FOR 2023

RESOL. # 27-2023: Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried approving Resolution #27-2023.

WHEREAS, the proposed 2023 Engineering Services contract was presented by Delaware Engineering and;

WHEREAS, the contract is the same as previous years with a current 2023 rate schedule and;

WHEREAS, this contract allows Delaware Engineering to be a resource that can be accessed by the Village on an as needed basis;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees approves the **2023 General Services Contract with Delaware Engineering** and authorizes Mayor Stoddard to execute the same.

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

COMMENTS:

Dara Smith (Liberty Street) discussed the heavy traffic on her street as well as the speeders. She said there is great potential for people being hit and even with her bright clothing has had close calls. She suggested the Village research some type of a four way stop in that area.

Dara also discussed the out of control deer population in the Village and how hard it is to keep vegetation from being destroyed by them.

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

COMMENTS:

Mayor Stoddard discussed the pinwheels that were placed in the traffic circle.

Trustee Mir discussed the possibility of a Litter Pluck on the four lanes.

Trustee Aracci said he met with the Code Enforcement Officer and reviewed the system that he was interested in for his office.

Trustee Stoddard said that she did not feel the budget would allow for a new system this year.

Trustee Feasel said he received the information he needed for the EV Charging Station and will be working with the contractors on this project.

APPROVAL POST AUDIT VOUCHERS OF BILLS

FOR PYMT: Motion by Trustee Aracci, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried approving Post Audit Voucher #2924 to Voucher #2936 in the amount of \$1,064,079.16.

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

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:03 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

JUDY H. ZURAWSKI, CLERK/TREASURER

