

Minutes of the Interlaken Village Board of Trustees meeting held on Thursday, 9 March 2023 at the Village Hall and via GoTo Meeting.

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

Others Present: Sergeant Dwello, Code Enforcement Officer Jay Clerk/Treasurer Swartwood, Deputy Clerk Quan.

via GoTo Meeting: DPW Supervisor Ahouse, Fire Chief Borden.

Public Present: Linda Duddleston.

via GoTo Meeting: Rick Glabach, Michael 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, Pepper seconded, to accept the minutes from 9 February 2023 meeting; carried.

### **Public to be Heard:**

Following up on last month's meeting regarding changes to the municipal code, Linda Duddleston asked about the status of changes and how the public will be informed. Richardson advised the Board is in the midst of discussing changes in the municipal code; after the attorney reviews the proposed changes, a public hearing on the matter will be announced.

Duddleston asked about code related to installation of roof mounted solar panels. Richardson advised the Village does not have a code for the installation, but there may be codes for the county.

Duddleston asked about who may comment or enforce burning in a chiminea. Richardson advised that currently only the Code Officer has the authority to enforce the code.

Town of Covert Supervisor Reynolds spoke of replacing the existing public signboard in front of the Town of Covert Municipal Building with an electronic ink or LED version. Though currently still in a research phase, he asked if the Village would contribute funds to the cost (initial quote is \$22k). Dwello spoke of a Rochester-based sign maker. Richardson advised Interlaken Community Action Group may be able to help raise money; additionally, the Village will be reviewing their budget.

### **Library:**

Planning for the 9-10 June Olde Home Day Festival will be on Monday, 13 March at the Village office.

**Fire:**

There were twelve calls in February.

Younger and newer members received good training with Trumansburg on a house they burned.

A meeting with Mark Aswad, Firehouse Apparatus/4 Guys Fire Trucks went well; the truck design should be ready to be put out for bid by June or July. The truck is expected to cost around \$420k. The chassis may be able to be purchased outright ahead of time to avoid interest payment. Aswad advised the old fire truck may have a resale value of \$80k

If anyone plans to attend the 25 March banquet, but hasn't signed up, they should let Borden know so he may get a head count.

The chicken barbecue will be at noon, Sunday, 2 April.

**Water:**

Replaced four meters this month.

DPW worked with Hubbard Heating & Plumbing to shut off a customer's water; Hubbard will need to replace the line going through the foundation.

Replaced a ¾-inch valve for a customer on Main Street while the meter was being replaced.

Looking for leaks at valves and hydrants on County Road 150. Checking catch basins for chlorine residuals. DPW might have Ovid assist next week to listen to a few spots. Leak Detection doesn't think they will be able to come here until the end of this month or early next month.

Received a chlorine delivery.

There was a six-inch water main break on Prospect Street.

Started the DEC annual water Withdrawal Report.

Worked with Swartwood on some budget items.

Ordered stone to replace what was used during the last repairs.

**Sewer:**

Changed the feed line and replaced the prime tube in the injection pump.

The grease trap line froze, but it began working once it warmed up.

There was a plug in the low lift pump.

A lateral plug on Orchard Street was determined to be on the homeowner's side.

Normal operation sampling from YAWS Environmental and pumping from Brewers Septic.

Toured the drying beds at Willard wastewater treatment plant; the beds worked well for their operations.

Discussions for land acquisition with the landowner adjacent to the sewer plant continues. Richardson reported Tim Steed gave the landowner HUNT EAS design plans; Richardson suggested the landowner be consulted for their feedback.

Discussion about the Willard plant drying beds and the organizations and municipalities the plant served ensued.

### **Streets/Equipment:**

Filled potholes near crosswalks and sidewalks.

Thoroughly cleaned the interior and exterior of the backhoe.

Removed the frozen mud and cleaned the pickup and the dump truck after the repair of the water main break

Milton CAT initiated a conversation about a trade-in; they offered \$90k for the backhoe. A new baseline model (which is a lower spec) costs \$140k; a model similarly spec'd, excluding the quick connect coupler on the front, costs \$160k.

Removed snow and salted sidewalks, including the one adjacent to the First Baptist Church.

Reviewed the tree work with KJ's Property Care. The work is expected to be done 13-17 March; if snow delays the start of the work (because of their other contract commitments), it will be completed before the end of the month. Ahouse spoke of the logistics in placement of equipment for the removal of the various trees.

### **Police:**

The department handled 100 calls of service, including 24 vehicle traffic stops. Court security detail took place without issue.

One of the computers needed replacing; Seneca County Sheriff's Department provided the department with a Panasonic Toughbook.

The Dodge Charger is not operational for patrolling, but it would be satisfactory for general transportation. The \$2k estimate for needed maintenance work does not include a new battery or repair of the transmission. The mechanic recommended surplusing the vehicle because of its age, idle time, mileage.

Discussions followed:

- surplusing and decommissioning versus transferring it to another municipality or agency (including a fire department).
- number of vehicles needed.
- costs and drawbacks of: repair versus purchase of a used or new vehicle, including hybrid or electric (and the installation of a charging station).
- vehicle upgrades needed for use as a patrol vehicle.

Seneca Falls Police Department has a car on auction. Next year, an SRO used Ford Explorer will likely be put up for auction; the Seneca Falls Police Chief will give Interlaken Police Department first right of refusal.

The documentation for meeting the Standards and Compliance Verification for the NYS Law Enforcement Accreditation is almost complete and ready to be uploaded for review by the state.

Parking tickets need to be updated because they do not meet the requirements of the municipal code or the Town of Covert Court. Fines can be determined by either the Village board or the Town Justice. Parking restrictions would need to be disclosed on signage at every entrance into the village.

The Seneca County Sherriff's Office advised there are more burglaries occurring at the south end of the county and are progressively moving north.

Kempf noted improving relationships with the Seneca County Sherriff's Office. Dwello noted the department is in good standing with other municipalities, including those in other counties.

Dwello spoke of scheduling and suggested a patrol in the Village on Friday and Saturday afternoons, when many occurrences happen.

Dwello spoke of the host agreement with the Town of Ovid (patrolling near Sheldrake) as well as the Town of Covert, assisting both townships with their vehicle and traffic issues.

Dwello is looking for grant funding for a license plate reader (because of the high volume of traffic) as well as for seatbelt and speeding infractions.

The Department is billed for the electricity used for the school zone lights; Dwello suggested the school fully or partially fund the costs (because of their larger budget). Conversation about the operation of the lights ensued; Dwello noted changes in operation were only to be done by certified electricians in the DOT Signs Program.

**Treasurer:** balances of accounts read.

Budget modifications are necessary to cover costs for law contractual, library, insurance, and dues. Richardson motioned, Del Plato seconded, to make the budget modification.

**Approval of Bills:** Kempf motioned, Garcia seconded, to approve vouchers in: General Fund (#287-313: \$7962.90), Water Fund (#84-94: \$7650.09), Sewer Fund (#57-62: \$3717.35) for payment; carried.

### **Old Business:**

- O'Neal rate.
  - Richardson motioned, Pepper seconded, to set the rate of pay for O'Neal at \$19 per hour; carried.
- Payment of bills.
  - Terracon: holding.
  - Flagg: to be discussed in executive session.

### **New Business:**

- Village parking tickets need to be modified and appropriate fines determined.
- Municipal Code update for attorney: tabled.
- No overnight parking (library). When the library is closed, the park is closed; parking should be similar. Signage will be coordinated with the library.
- Flagg letter 3/3/23: to be discussed during executive session.

- IT solicitation letter.
  - Discussion about the needs of the Village.
  - Christopher Rogers services Interlaken Police Department.
  - Garcia to follow up with prospective people:
    - Solicitation from Union Springs.
    - Brandon Swanson, Network Technician Assistant at South Seneca Central School District.
- MRB Group, engineering firm hired by Seneca County for an intermunicipal water and sewer system.

**Additional Comments:**

Richardson motioned, Del Plato seconded, to create a resolution to transfer three separate Community Bank capital reserve accounts and consolidate and rename them into two NYCLASS accounts for a better interest rate and simplicity: one for the repayment of the Environmental Facilities Corporation loan and the other for maintenance and operation fund reserve; carried. A public hearing on the resolution is scheduled for 13 April to hear comments.

Dwello and Swartwood requested cameras and access controls for the Village office. Alarmtech submitted an estimate; Richardson and Kempf recused themselves, suggesting the other Trustees seek additional quotes.

**Executive Session:**

Richardson motioned, Del Plato seconded, to enter executive session to discuss a property purchase at 7:53 PM; carried.

Kempf motioned, Pepper seconded, to exit executive session at 8:26 PM; carried.

**Adjournment:** Richardson motioned, Kempf seconded, to adjourn at 8:26 PM; carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Quan, Deputy Village Clerk