

REGULAR MEETING

JANUARY 2, 2025

The Board of Trustees held the Regular Meeting on January 2, 2025 at 7:00 P.M. in 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, Trustee Ernest Feasel, Trustee Eveleese Lake, Trustee Robert Mir and Trustee Jayneen Mills. Also Present: Gary Silver, Attorney for the Village and Judy Zurawski, Clerk/Treasurer.

ALSO PRESENT: Frank DeMayo, Town Supervisor; Steven D'Agata, Police Chief; Marisol Torrens, Village Code Enforcement Officer; David Burke, Director of Public Works and Thomas Zweck.

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

❖ **PUBLIC HEARING – NOVEMBER 21, 2024 AND DECEMBER 12, 2024**

Motion by Trustee Feasel, seconded by Trustee Mills and unanimously carried approving the following minutes:

❖ **REGULAR MEETING – DECEMBER 12, 2024**

CORRESPONDENCE: Mayor Stoddard said the Village received the following incoming correspondence during this time frame.

- ❖ Letter from Blue Wave Re: Potential Lease of property 12.18.24
-Attorney Silver gave a brief history of the property
- ❖ December Street Light Report from PD Re: Defective Lights

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Stoddard opened the meeting to comments from the public.

John Brust – Delaware Engineering

John Brust discussed the efforts to work with the Department of Health, the NYSDEC and the Sullivan County Partnership to allow more water to be pumped out of the Elm Street well. Currently the Village is capped at 250,000 gallons per day but it has the potential to ramp up. He would like to see it increased in increments until we get to 750,000 gallons to see if the contamination is present at all. The well is a great asset to the Village and would save considerable money over the Water Filtration System. With the well back on line there would be more water for economic development as well.

John went on to explain that the proposal for the NYSDEC would not exceed \$20,000 and Marc Baez (Sullivan County Partnership) will work on the funding.

Frank DeMayo – Town of Liberty Supervisor

Frank DeMayo stressed the critical importance of the Village and Town water supply.

Frank also suggested the Village go for Pro Housing Certification, which opens the door for funding through the ESD program.

Marc Baez – Sullivan County Partnership

Marc Baez said he will seek out the funding for the Elm Street Water Proposal, which he did not see any issues in obtaining.

ATTORNEY Attorney Silver only had agenda items to discuss.

COMMENTS:

TREAS. Treasurer Zurawski did not have a report.

REPORT:

TABLED UPDATE ON SUB-COMMITTEES

BUSINESS:

Speed Reduction

The sub-committee of Mayor Stoddard, Trustee Lake and Police Chief D'Agata are continuing to work on this issue.

Parking

Police Chief D'Agata is reviewing the recommended changes.

Noise Ordinance

The sub-committee of Trustee Mills, Trustee Feasel and Police Chief D'Agata are looking at suggestions on how to handle the Noise Ordinance.

HONK

Mayor Stoddard and Trustee Lake are reviewing this matter and will report back to the Board.

DISCUSSION OF WATER RATES

There is nothing new to report on this matter, as David Bunce has not brought forth his calculations.

UPDATE ON TAX PARCELS 120.-1-3 & 121.-3-7.2

Attorney Silver said he will reach out to Sullivan County Treasurer Nancy Buck to see if the issue has been resolved on the Willow Lane Property – Tax Map #120.-1-3.

Attorney Silver said he would contact NYCOM to see the Village options on selling the property on Sullivan Avenue – Tax Map #121.-3-7.2.

NEW CONSIDER LOCAL LAW RE: PROPERTY OWNER NOTIFICATION

BUSINESS:

CONSIDER NEGATIVE DECLARATION ON PROPOSED LOCAL LAW #1-2025

Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Lake and unanimously carried to issue a Negative Declaration on proposed local law #1-2025.

CONSIDER VOTE ON LOCAL LAW #1-2025

Motion by Trustee Mills, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried approving Local Law #1-2025. This local law will amend Sections 87-60, 97-76.H and 87-76.1 of the Code of the Village of Liberty to require notice be given to property owners within 300 feet for public hearings before the Planning and Zoning Board of Appeals.

The local law was put to a vote, which resulted as follows:

MAYOR STODDARD	-	YES	
TRUSTEE MILLS	-	YES	
TRUSTEE FEASEL	-	YES	<u>ADOPTED</u>
TRUSTEE MIR	-	YES	
TRUSTEE LAKE	-	YES	

DISCUSSION ON AMENDING THE ZONING LAW IN R-2 AND C ZONES

Attorney Silver and Code Enforcement Officer Marisol Torrens have been collaborating on the zoning law and have come up with some proposals.

Attorney Silver said he will draw up the law for review by the Board and if it is satisfactory to everyone a Public Hearing can be set at the next Board Meeting.

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

Police Chief D’Agata

Chief D’Agata said the final issue with the new Peddlers Law is to set fees for each type of license – Peddlers, Transient and Mobile Food Truck. He said he and Marisol have some fees in mind and will present them at the next meeting to be adopted.

TRUSTEE REPORTS: Mayor Stoddard opened up the meeting to comments from the Board.

Trustee Feasel – No Comment

Trustee Mills – No Comment

Trustee Lake – No Comment

Trustee Mir – No Comment

Mayor Stoddard discussed the sewer only bills, in particular Edward Riente #9-50700, and a possible adjustment to the gallons that are billed.

The Board said once they get the rate study from RCap Solutions, they will re-address the issue.

BILLS FOR Post Audit Vouchers

PAYMENT: Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Feasel and unanimously carried approving the payment of Post Audit Voucher #618 to Voucher #625 in the amount of \$479,751.80.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion by Trustee Mir, seconded by Trustee Lake and unanimously carried to go into Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue in the Code Enforcement Office.

Police Chief D’Agata and Judy Zurawski were invited into the Executive Session.

Motion made by Trustee Lake, seconded by Trustee Mills to come out of the Executive Session at 8:15 p.m.

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

THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:16 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

JUDY H. ZURAWSKI, CLERK-TREASURER

