

Minutes of the Interlaken Village Board of Trustees meeting held on Thursday, 08 September 2022 at the Village Hall and via GoTo Meeting.

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

Excused: Trustee Bergren.

Others Present: Acting Chief Dinardo, Code Enforcement Officer Jay, Clerk/Treasurer Swartwood, Deputy Clerk Quan.

via GoTo Meeting: Fire Chief Borden.

Public Present: Fred Dery, Marty Schlabach, Richard Westbrook

via GoTo Meeting: Phil Stannard.

Mayor Richardson called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM.

Public Hearing of Local Law 1 of 2022. No public comment.

Approval of Minutes:

Kempf motioned, Del Plato seconded, to accept the minutes from 11 August 2022 meeting; carried.

Public to be Heard:

Richard Westbrook spoke of rodent infestation resulting from a neighbor's trash strewn about their property. Conversation about the condition of the property, debris, and disposal solutions (dumpster days and weekly trash collection) ensued. Richardson will issue a warning to the resident and contact Seneca County Health Department.

Fred Percy asked about the status of the Emergency Watershed Protection Project for the creek that runs between State Route 96A and past Mechanic Street. He was advised work on the project is delayed because one resident has not signed a release that is part of the requirement for the federal grant funds.

Marty Schlabach advised Sandy Malkowsky was selected by the Interlaken Library Board of Trustees to be its ninth, as per the bylaws, Board of Trustees member. Del Plato motioned, Richardson seconded, to approve the appointment.

Library:

Schlabach reported having 276 attendees during July's 23 different programs on offer. He spoke of the return of Ted's Troupe Storytime, a program that ceased since the beginning of the pandemic. The return of the program has driven an increase in circulation of children's picture books as well as adult books. Movie night also contributes to the increase in circulation of movies in the library's collection.

Schlabach spoke of an ongoing collaboration, Teen Library Advisory Board, with the schools.

Between the Lakes Library Book Sale, a collaboration between Ulysses Philomathic Library and the five libraries in Seneca County, will take place on 17 September 2022.

JG3 Excavating is expected to begin working on the parking lot the second or third week of September. Richardson advised the DOT permit for DPW is expected to be approved within the week. Ahouse has logistical questions, but has not received a response to his inquiry from the contractor.

Richardson spoke of NY Forward program (part of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative), a 25% matching funds grant, to help smaller and rural communities through either one of two \$4.5M or one of three \$2.25M grants. Discussion about electric car charging stations, installed in the library parking lot or other locations, as part of the revitalization.

Del Plato expressed his dismay about how Jay Grasso, G&G Municipal Consulting and Grant, has not been responsive or timely on grants the Village was interested in pursuing.

Fire:

There were eight calls in August.

Borden still awaits drawings from Firehouse Apparatus for the Engine 501 replacement.

The department awaits the arrival of gear ordered; the company advised they would ship on 3 October; Borden commented on how low bid is not always best. Borden asked about the status of a FEMA grant and Grasso's involvement.

All trucks have been serviced and passed pump testing. Engine 503 struggled, but passed; this is a sign that it could be costly in the future.

Options for a replacement flagpole were sent to Richardson and Kempf for review. Borden has been informed of bushes on the north end of the parking lot are interfering with parking; he advised Ahouse.

The Interlaken Car Show went very well; Borden was thankful for Officer Worrell's assistance.

Borden reported the Trumansburg Fair went well, with new members from all of the departments getting a chance to work together.

Borden asked about two fire hydrants in the Village (Main Street and Knight Street) that are out of service. Richardson advised DPW ordered two; expected delivery date is unknown.

DPW replaced the gate valve on the truck filling system. The one put on a couple of months ago failed. Since it was not able to be returned, they installed a heavy-duty brass unit.

Water:

Gathered energy draw data for water plant; applied for a grant for a backup generator.

Assisted Ovid with water main repair.

Samples taken from Quik Shoppe for: monthly bacteria sample, Trihalomethane for disinfection by-products.

Seneca County Health Department performed their annual water sampling. They advised they can no longer test for chlorinated pesticides so DPW will need to find a lab; Microbac Laboratories in Cortland should be able to do the testing for less than \$500.

Ahouse contacted contractors to bid on the stream embankment and well site projects.

Extension filed with FEMA for project funding for the stream embankment, brush pile, and culvert on Clinton Street; Bernadette Moran, New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES), advised the extension for the stream embankment is under review for approval by FEMA.

Met with Rich DeGuida from MRB Group (Seneca County hired the firm to analyze water and sewer systems) to inventory our water and sewer systems.

Met with Mayor, Water Commissioner, HUNT EAS, and the property owners about purchasing the land for the lake intake pump house; property owners are having second thoughts about selling. Seneca County Health Department is reviewing the project.

Met with Don Ballway from AquaLogic and HUNT EAS to go over schematics and controls for the new pump house; a unit specific for the new pump house should be ready shortly.

Patched the road on Main Street where there were water main repairs this summer. Assisted with repairs in Hector and Ovid.

Monthly report to Seneca County Health Department.

Sewer:

Normal operation sampling from YAWS Environmental. Extra pumping this month from Brewers Septic because they pumped out the cone in the digester in addition to normal sludge removal.

Worked on GPS mapping the system. Initially four manholes could not be found; a renewed search located three of four. Michelle Henry will enter the data to complete the mapping.

Streets:

Reviewed Mechanic Street and Knight Street stream embankment repair designs in a meeting with the Mayor, Water Commissioner, USDA NRCS, and land owners. Shot grades for culvert replacement on Mechanic Street. Four-foot pipes should fit over the water and sewer pipes. Plans were sent to Seneca County Highway

Department; Roy Gates, Superintendent of Highways, would like to help, but advised they do not have the capacity. As a result, the project may not be completed this fall. NYS DOT advised Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS) funds can be used for pipe and pavement costs, but expenditures will not be reimbursed until the project is complete.

Pot hole repairs on east side of Village.

Thoroughly cleaned the old Ford F-250, including the letters on the doors, to make it ready for listing for auction.

Ahouse requested purchases for the new Ford F-250: seat covers, roof light, bed liner, toolbox, and tonneau cover.

Plowing Day & Country Fair is 17 September.

Police:

The department handled nine calls of service. Fifteen cars were stopped; seven citations issued.

O'Neill is on light duty for the next two to twelve weeks because of an injury.

Court security detail took place without issue.

Officer Worrell helped with the Interlaken Car Show.

The School Resource Officer position was awarded to Seneca County Sherriff's Office; Officer Zach Presher will hold the position. He expects to work at the Village after his shift at the school.

A partial shipment of the ammunition ordered arrived, costing \$60 less than expected.

Since the rate of pay for officers in the Village increased, Dinardo received six applications; two are prospective: one, a Newark police officer served for twenty years before retiring; the other received his initial police certification in New York before serving in Athens-Clarke County, Georgia for six years—he only seeks part-time work because he works full-time for the Village of Dryden DPW.

Dinardo requested the addition of two part-time positions and approval for pursuing a background check. Del Plato asked about the need for additional officers on payroll since state troopers and sherriffs have recently been patrolling Main Street and State Route 96A. Pepper commented the addition of the officers could be considered part of a long-term strategy. Richardson proposed having the background checks completed while giving the Board time to think about the details about adding the two positions.

Treasurer: balances of accounts read.

Approval of Bills: Pepper motioned, Del Plato seconded; carried.

Old Business:

- Fire Contracts to the Town of Covert and Town of Ovid meeting.

- Richardson and Borden met with supervisors of both towns; neither had issues with the proposal of the new contract.
- Letter to library re: funding.
 - Richardson informed Schlabach the Board would like to help the library, but they would like to know how the monies are spent; certain recurring annual bills could be sent to the Village or monies could be transferred. Schlabach commented the library's budget and funds are public information; Richardson remarked the Village does not have a copy. Schlabach said the library could review how they spend their money, adding Librarian Director Chelsea Hastings applied and received grant funds that paid for public programming (thereby offering the programs to patrons at no cost).

New Business:

- Architectural Concrete Plus agreement,
 - Richardson advised the contract for the work on the culvert on Clinton Street—the only one received—just needs for him to sign it.
- IPD no parking signs from the school to Hipshot Products on both sides for Plow Day on 17 September.
 - Dinardo will put up signs the evening before the event.
- CWIO Report
 - Del Plato showed Erin Norris where the old water tower stood, the intended location for the retention pond (for storm water overflow); he showed other places around the village.
 - Del Plato advised the organization met in-person. He commented the participation of farmers was good because of the importance in maintaining communication amid the tension between the organization and farmers over harmful algae blooms and its nutrient sources.
- Richardson and Del Plato submitted a letter of intent to apply for the Downtown Revitalization Initiative NY Forward grants. Pepper motioned, Del Plato seconded, to seek engineering firms interested in writing the grant; carried.
 - Discussion of fund use for properties on Main Street and the Park for All Ages.

Additional Comments:

Jean Jay asked if a resident filed an animal permit application. Swartwood advised she did not receive a permit application, but a neighboring resident sent a letter addressed to the Board; in the letter, the neighboring resident said they would like the Board to not issue the permit to allow for chicken and geese.

Richardson advised the Village owns two properties that were used for their wells which have not been in use since the 1990s (additionally, a water line is no longer

in place between the properties and the tank. He suggested if they are no longer going to use the properties, it should go back to the public via auction or sealed bid.

Richardson asked the Board if they considered the driveway easement for Glenn Boyce. Del Plato suggested they followed the advice of the attorney to not allow the easement, in part, because of liability. Richardson commented easements should not just be for private parties; it should benefit the public. Richardson will notify Boyce of the Board's decision.

Adjournment: Del Plato motioned, Richardson seconded, to adjourn at 8:05 PM; carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Quan, Deputy Village Clerk