

**Board of Trustees
VILLAGE OF MILLERTON
Regular Meeting
September 21, 2020
Zoom Meeting/Live w/Facebook**

A regular meeting of the Village of Millerton Board of Trustees was held on Monday, September 21, 2020. It was called to order at 6:00 PM via Zoom meeting telecommunication (due to COVID-19 restrictions from State and County levels) with Mayor Debra Middlebrook presiding. Trustees present: Jennifer Najdek - also Deputy Mayor, Alicia Sartori, Matthew Hartzog and Joshua Schultz. Also present: Clerk/Acting Treasurer Kelly Kilmer, Police Officer-in-Charge Michael Veeder, Highway Supervisor Cole Lawrence, and Attorney Ian MacDonald (sign-in sheet attached). Members of the public were able to view and comment through the Village's Facebook page, where this meeting was broadcast live.

Presentation

Attorney MacDonald presented a hardship-based request from AT&T to reduce its monthly rent for leased space on the Village water tower from \$2,432.27 to \$2,334.77. The company offers a period of guaranteed rent payments to the Village over the course of the ensuing five years in exchange, in more stringent accordance with its lease than is currently required. Attorney MacDonald will detail the current lease and AT&T's request via email to Board members soon so that the Board can make a fully informed decision.

Departments

Highways and Water

Highway Supervisor Lawrence said an insertion valve is needed to simultaneously drain and pressurize the water tower tank before the painting process can begin. He broadly outlined estimates ranging from \$10,000-14,000. He noted this measure would also remedy the taxing issue of the old altitude pit, the impending demise of which could catalyze the loss of the entire system. Discussion ensued on the future use of current highway garage fuel tanks, fixing the Mill Street Bridge (recently yellow-flagged by the State due to erosion), permitting for the Kent Glass dig, and a leaky curb box at the old elementary school.

Police

Officer-in-Charge Veeder reviewed comparative crime statistics. He then discussed Millerton Police Department participation in the Dutchess County police reform initiative, stressing the importance of accreditation. He reported that the County's feedback on Millerton policing is that the Village stands where it should regarding policy and procedures. He also said officers gave out 26 helmets, donated through the Stop DWI program, on the Rail Trail throughout Labor Day Weekend and highlighted the imminent potential appointment of two new officers for Board input.

Vouchers

A motion by Trustee Hartzog to allow the payment of Vouchers #2019552-2019557 – **General \$33,586.62; Water \$ 27,972.68; Total \$61,551.30** was seconded by Trustee Sartori, approved by all five (5) members in attendance and passed.

Committee Reports

Deputy Mayor Najdek updated the Board on the Eddie Collins Memorial Park Revitalization Project, website and funding avenues. Trustee Sartori announced personnel considerations for Executive Session.

Trustee Hartzog discussed signs and flagpole lighting around Village Hall and informed the Board that the Village's equipment list is almost finished. He also said requirements for solar lighting funding include the Village meeting dark skies parameters. Trustee Hartzog said the Village is working toward becoming a "climate smart community" (CSC) along with the Town, and that status would help in getting future grants for bridges and culverts. Trustee Schultz stated that currently the Northeast Town Supervisor will take a webinar on pandemics and emergency operations plans, and that, hopefully, by January 1, 2021, the Village and the Town will institute a joint emergency plan.

Clerk's Report

Clerk Kilmer requested any update on the electric vehicle station grant. Trustee Hartzog replied that the CSC committed to doing a lot of the grant tracking; he will check in with them. Clerk Kilmer stated the need for the following: A *motion* to resubmit BAN documents for new police vehicle purchase with new date of September 22, 2020 (made by Trustee Hartzog, seconded by Deputy Mayor Najdek, all [5] present members favored, and the motion passed); a *motion* to waive the penalty for a water bill - due to atypical mail system issues - at 44-46 Main Street for July 2020 (made by Trustee Schultz, seconded by Trustee Sartori, all [5] present members favored, and the motion passed); and a *motion* to allow Mayor Middlebrook to sign and enable the Village to enter and execute a joint Town/Village recreation contract (made by Deputy Mayor Najdek, seconded by Trustee Sartori, all [5] members favored, and the motion passed). Clerk Kilmer gave a local elections update, stating that inspectors sat 10 hours for 17 voters and that the Village thanks them for their work. The next elections will be on June 15, 2021, (side note: this is also the date she had, in a previous year, elected to be born). She congratulated Trustees Sartori and Hartzog on their victories this round. Clerk Kilmer also said she had received an email from a Millerton visitor regarding the exceptional cleanliness of the composting toilets and thanked maintenance professionals Emma Gonzalez and Gail O'Halloran for cleaning them, and Jeanne Vanecko for coordinating those efforts so effectively. The Board agreed to determine a closing date for the toilets at the next October meeting. Clerk Kilmer announced she would be immersed in webinars conducted by the NYCOM municipal conference for the next three days and working between sessions.

Treasurer's Report

Acting Treasurer Kilmer reported that she is working with the Village Accountant on the AUD for FY 2019-2020, which is on target to be filed by the extended due date of October 1, 2020. She explained that a voucher not included in this meeting's voucher segment is one that can be paid only if the Board passes a budget modification. She described the related circumstances and details, having to do with signage under the solar grant. A *motion* for budget adjustments was made by Deputy Mayor Najdek, seconded by Trustee Hartzog, all (5) present members approved and the motion passed. A *motion* was then made by Trustee Hartzog to pay that voucher amount to Glenco as the budget was duly modified, and it was seconded by Trustee Sartori. All (5) present members approved and the motion passed.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Middlebrook updated the Board on the CDBG 2020 Sidewalks project, saying that, as certain elements still await DOT approval, the project may be completed in the Spring rather than the Fall. In response to a request for a liaison by the Dutchess County Human Rights Commission, the Mayor appointed Trustee Schultz as the Village's representative to the Commission. She also appointed Trustees Hartzog and Schultz to a joint Village/Town public safety committee that will meet biannually. The appointments will last through the next Village election in June 2021. The Mayor reappointed Delora Brooks Chair of the Zoning Board of Appeals and Lance Middlebrook Chair of the Planning Board of

Appeals. Those appointments, due to expire October 5, 2020; will now extend through the next Village election. The Mayor then reported Village merchants proposed another sidewalk sale on Columbus Day Weekend. Seeing no objection, she announced the Village would allow it, given certain stipulations for safety. Merchants will also be allowed to use the Eddie Collins park pavilion on October 1, 2020. A *motion* for the Mayor to sign and execute a two-year contract renewal with the Town regarding policing was made by Trustee Hartzog, seconded by Trustee Sartori, all (5) present members approved and the motion passed.

Executive Session

A *motion* to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel issues was made by Deputy Mayor Najdek and seconded by Trustee Hartzog; all (5) present members approved and the motion passed. The Board entered Executive Session at 7:54PM. A *motion* to exit executive session was made by Trustee Hartzog at 8:46PM. Trustee Sartori seconded it, all (5) present members approved and the motion passed. The Board then resumed its Regular Meeting.

Appointments

A *motion* was made by Deputy Mayor Najdek to appoint Suzanne Bressler to Village Secretary effective the following Wednesday, September 30, 2020, at 9:30AM, at \$20 per hour for up to 20 hours per week. The motion was seconded by Trustee Hartzog, all (5) present members approved and it passed, thus she was appointed on those terms. A *motion* was made by Deputy Mayor Najdek to appoint Mike Segelton to Deputy Buildings Inspector and Deputy Zoning Enforcement Officer at \$29.50 per hour for up to three hours per week. The motion was seconded by Trustee Hartzog, all (5) present members approved and it passed, thus he was appointed on those terms. A *motion* for Police Officer-in-Charge Veeder to appoint two new officers at a date and rate to be determined by him at the appropriate time was made by Trustee Hartzog and seconded by Trustee Sartori. All (5) present members approved and the motion passed. A *motion* to allow a \$4,500 budget adjustment from the Recreation Salary line (with residual from not having held a camp program this year) to the Zoning Officer line was made by Trustee Hartzog, seconded by Deputy Mayor Najdek, all (5) present members approved and the motion passed. Clerk Kilmer reminded the Board that in the following fiscal year, the Board would need to draw from a different budget line. She stated that the Village may need to make a new budget line for office salaries, but that she will discuss the issue with the Village Accountant and possibly raise it at the next October meeting.

Public Comment

No Comments or Questions

Adjourn

A *motion* was made by Deputy Mayor Najdek to adjourn at 8:54PM, and it was seconded by Trustee Sartori; all five (5) members in attendance approved and the motion passed, thus ending the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Prepared By:

Kelly Kilmer
Village Clerk

Suzanne Bressler
Deputy Clerk (11/23/20)

Approved: 12/07/2020