

Minutes of the Interlaken Village Board of Trustees meeting held on Thursday, 11 January 2024 at the Village Hall and via GoTo Meeting.

Members Present: Trustee Del Plato, Trustee Garcia, Trustee Pepper.

Via GoTo Meeting: Mayor Richardson.

Absent: Trustee Kempf.

Others Present: Fire Chief Borden, Police Chief Dwello, Clerk/Treasurer Swartwood, Deputy Clerk Quan.

Via GoTo Meeting: DPW Supervisor Ahouse.

Public Present: Maxine Flagg, Paul Flagg, Marty Schlabach.

Swartwood called the meeting to order at 6:31 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes:

Del Plato motioned, Garcia seconded, to accept the minutes from the 14 December 2023 Regular Board Meeting; Del Plato: aye, Garcia: aye, Pepper: aye.

Public Hearing of Local Law 1 of 2024: Village of Interlaken Property Tax Exemption for Qualified Firefighters and Volunteer Ambulance Workers per Real Property Tax Law §466-a, et seq.: no comments.

Library:

Schlabach shared the January 2024 Directors Report, summarizing highlights of the year: there were more than 4000 attendees to 501 programs (141 adult, 128 teen, and 232 children), 295 volunteer hours, and high use of the Wi-Fi network.

Director Hastings sought grant funding to support the programming so participants were not charged. Relying exclusively on grant funding can put programming at risk; there are plans to put the costs of programming in the budget.

The Interlaken newspaper has been digitized through 1990; it is accessible through the library's website as well as NYS Historic Newspapers.

The library will have been in its current location for 100 years in 2025.

The library prefers the trimming of the tree over its removal.

Ahouse awaits a quote for the tree work from Limbwalker Tree Care. Some of the library board members would like to save the tree. Director Hastings would like the village to cover the costs.

Public to be Heard:

Paul Flagg spoke about his interaction with Attorney Chalifoux regarding the final review of the deed, specifically regarding clause three (fencing around the well). He spoke about how it seems contradictory to clause four (fencing impeding access to the back property would not be built). The issue to him isn't the fence, but the

access to the rest of the property. He hopes Richardson would agree striking clause three is plausible and reasonable.

Flagg spoke of the deviations in the option agreements of 1988 and 1989 (water and electrical activity would be below ground) and how not asking for any consideration is typical of their cooperation with the village. He added they intend on maintaining this cooperation but cannot accept clause three. Ahouse advised the well casing and electrics need to be above flood plain per health department regulations.

Richardson said the village is not likely to erect a fence, noting the two Trumansburg well sites do not have a fence. In the event a fence is erected, a locked gate could be placed on both sides to allow access.

Fire:

There were 9 calls in December; the 137 calls for the year is about average.

Members Jason Lisk and Henry Esh are taking Fire Officer Training.

Some members took Grain Bin Rescue Training; Borden will take it in the future.

At least two members will start Basic Firefighter class in February.

Members did a great job at the trailer fire in Lodi.

DEC approved the \$5k matching grant for gloves and Nomex hoods.

Borden spoke about how things went well during the storm Tuesday night. The county called an all-call, dismissing everybody at midnight. He reported a tree fell on a house; the resident would not leave but would be able to spend the night.

When asked, Borden spoke about refresher training courses occurring every three months, though they may not be on the same subject.

Borden is working on a \$1M state grant (not FEMA) to replace the firehouse; the funds would not be able to cover all of the costs of buying the property and building the firehouse, but it would be a start. They hope to build next to the existing firehouse, but the property owner may not sell the land needed. In addition to poor air quality, training classes cannot be held at the current firehouse because the state will not hold training in truck bays.

The grant on the air packs is on hold until the other departments are ready.

DPW installed new faucets in both restrooms and installed a new wax ring in the men's restrooms.

Water:

Notice was given to Feldman to install a double check valve before or right after the water meter.

Read and tallied water meters.

Nitrate and Bac-T sampling was done.

Monthly report sent to Seneca County Health Department.

Sent out shut-off notices and meter repair notices.

Sewer:

Installed a new injection pump for disinfection.

Measured the fence needed for the upgrades.

Met with HUNT EAS; getting ready to go to bid.

A letter of intent from the landowners stating they will sell some of the property is needed; the intended property needs to be marked out.

DEC would like the village to update their sewer use laws.

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

Swartwood reported YAWS Environmental is raising their rate \$25 daily.

Streets and Equipment:

Sharpened plow blades and installed; lots, walks, and streets were plowed.

Decorations have been taken down.

Installed new winter parking hour signs for the police department on each entrance into the village.

Put out notices for basketball hoop to be moved away from the roads.

Ahouse awaits a response from an inquiry made with Trumansburg about 25 MPH speeds on side streets.

Bob Champion quoted a 3-inch painted double rail at \$2566. Pepper motioned, Del Plato seconded, to approve the purchase of the handrail for the culvert on Mechanic Street; Del Plato: aye, Garcia: aye, Pepper: aye.

Garcia motioned, Pepper seconded, to use ARPA funds for the purchase; Del Plato: aye, Garcia: aye, Pepper: aye.

Ahouse located seat covers for the truck; cost is \$250. A tonneau cover that fits the truck with the toolbox is out of stock; cost is \$500.

Police:

There were 130 calls for service, totaling 377 for the year; 16 traffic citations issued.

STOP-DWI resulted in 10 traffic citations; reimbursement request submitted.

Court security detail conducted without incident.

Monthly report submitted to NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services.

Sexual offence evidence kit reporting completed and submitted to NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services.

Dwello worked with Roy Gates, Seneca County Highway Department on new winter parking signs; DPW installed them.

Updated parking ordinances.

Sheriff Tim Thompson advised the department to seek other venues (besides the Seneca County Sheriff Department) for firearms as well as other training.

Dwello is working with Congresswoman Tenney on the USDA grant and other eligible federal grants; applied for grants for body worn cameras, radar unit, and portable and mobile triband (provides the ability to also communicate with

Tompkins County and Trumansburg Police Departments) radios.
Radar units and prescreen devices taken to Albany for annual calibration and returned to the vehicle for use.
Dodge Charger needs a new battery.
Del Plato asked about truck traffic, their speed, and spills. Dwello has been giving warnings to trucks using their Jake Brake.

Treasurer: balances of accounts read.

Budget modifications are necessary: appropriate money received from Ovid for Sheldrake, law contractual, auditors, sidewalks; FEMA monies received for Lively Run. Pepper motioned, Garcia seconded, to approve the budget modifications; Del Plato: aye, Garcia: aye, Pepper: aye.

Bills: General Fund (#220-249: \$17,912.66), Water Fund (#72-78: \$7,134.29), Sewer Fund (#50-52: \$2,777.52).

Old Business:

- ◆ Fisher Associates: awaiting a response.

New Business:

- ◆ Review/approve new specs for trash pickup
 - The contractor will provide a toter for all single-family residents and one toter for each apartment in the village boundaries. The contractor will use an automated refuse truck with an arm to pick up the toters. The contractor will empty toters, public garbage containers maintained by the village, and the dumpster at the firehouse on a weekly basis.
- ◆ Del Plato motioned, Garcia seconded, to approve payment of the 2021 HUNT EAS invoice for Mechanic Street using ARPA funds; Del Plato: aye, Garcia: aye, Pepper: aye.

Additional Comments:

Richardson spoke of Majoros' documentation that did not include electrics for the shed; Majoros wanted to confirm the village would be hooking up the shed.

Adjournment: Pepper motioned, Garcia seconded, to adjourn at 7:52 PM; Del Plato: aye, Garcia: aye, Pepper: aye.

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Quan, Deputy Village Clerk