

Minutes of the Interlaken Village Board of Trustees meeting held on Thursday, 12 January 2023 at the Village Hall and via GoTo Meeting.

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

Members Excused: Trustee Kempf.

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

via GoTo Meeting: DPW Supervisor Ahouse.

Public Present: None.

via GoTo Meeting: 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 08 December 2022 meeting; carried.

Public to be Heard:

None.

Fire:

There were 122 calls in 2022, down by 13 from 2021.

Everybody has been trained on the new battery powered positive PSI fan; it is working well.

The flagpole has been installed. Some final concrete work is necessary to set the monument. The landscaping surrounding it looks good.

Engine 501 has had its exhaust repaired.

The light tower on Engine 504 is currently operational; a new switch is on order.

The departments of Interlaken, Lodi, and Ovid will be doing joint training, scheduled up to the end of summer, the third Tuesday of each month.

Borden received drawings for the new fire truck from 4 Guys Fire Trucks. He would like to meet with Mark Aswad and Richardson, making changes as needed, in order for the project to go to bid by early summer. Aswad advised prices are increasing monthly. Borden said while Engine 504 cost \$304k, he anticipates the new one costing close to \$600k. He advised keeping the thirty-year truck replacement cycle in mind when considering its cost. A delivery for an order placed today will not be until 2025.

Schedule of events this year include a banquet (25 March), spring barbecue (2 April), car show (13 August). Borden suggested scheduling Olde Home Days soon so he can ensure staffing.

In cooperation with Trumansburg Volunteer Fire Company and the Town of Covert, Borden is squaring off the southern district line to reduce confusion among the dispatchers and the fire departments.

Borden reported Governor Hochul signed the Property Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighters and EMS. The affected village, towns, and school boards need to adopt it by 1 March. Borden clarified the exemption is only for the members' residence, not a business or a farm.

Borden spoke about the likely need to replace two air bottles, costing \$1k each. Richardson motioned, Garcia seconded, to approve the purchase of the battery powered positive PSI fan; carried.

Water:

A 6-inch main valve on Seneca Street was replaced with the assistance of Ovid; a replacement, costing \$1k, needs to be ordered.

Nitrate and Bac-T sampling as well as state mandated pesticide sampling was done. Read water meters, served notices, and did a few shut-offs. Sergeant Dwello assisted with a minor situation involving a shut-off on Cayuga Street.

Winterized and pumped down hydrants.

DPW needs to order another meter reader, costing \$1200.

Water use is 8-10k gallons high. They have been unable to find the leak for two weeks (though some very small ones have been found), so maybe water consumption as changed.

Interlaken Landing continues to not permit their water meters to be read.

Richardson will speak with Seneca County Health Department and Seneca County Code Enforcement.

Richardson motioned, Del Plato seconded, to approve the purchase of a replacement valve and a handheld meter; carried.

Richardson advised there were no updates on phase two of the water project.

Sewer:

There was a routine pump plug at the grease trap.

HUNT EAS is in talks with the landowner about the space for the drying beds.

Interlaken Police did building checks at the facilities; Seneca County Emergency Services issued a new address number for the sewer plant.

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

Richardson advised the \$1.2M CDBG grant needs to be spent by May 2024. They are coordinating with HUNT EAS on ways to ensure the monies are spent, including phase one of the project infrastructure update (where there is infiltration from streams), equipment, land acquisition. He added the farmer is receptive to selling the land.

Del Plato asked about County-wide sewer project and the Village's involvement.

Richardson said they have not received feedback. He suggested he and Del Plato attend a County meeting when it is being discussed.

Streets:

There was some snow plowing done, but not much.

The back hoe and trucks have been washed; oil was changed on the F-250 and dump truck.

Christmas decorations have been taken down, with the help of Mike Welsh and the school's lift.

They await the final approval from USDA on Knight Street and Mechanic Street projects. KJ's Property Care is booked most of February. They would like firm, dry ground to work on so as to not damage the spaces. Ahouse will schedule them so the trees are taken down by the 1 April deadline.

Ahouse spoke of the quickly approaching FEMA deadline. The contractor remains interested in the stream restoration project. Richardson noted the restoration was part of phase two of the sewer project plan submitted.

Ahouse received a good price for the new compact tractor, but prefers to wait until prices go down.

Research on changing the speed limits on the Village's side streets revealed Cornell Local Roads Program requires a study of the area.

Ahouse spoke about ownership of lot on Railroad Avenue and its use as a snow dump. An update on details about the property will be sought from Tompkins County Department of Assessment.

Police:

The department handled 111 calls of service (totaling 319 calls of service for the year), including 25 vehicle traffic stops. There was one arrest. There are two pending cases.

Court security detail took place without issue.

Sergeant Dwello set up training for all officers for the next six months.

The department audit is now completed. The inventory will be completed this week. Everything is in compliance for 2022.

An update to general orders needs to be done in order to be in compliance for the 2023 Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative, which need to be approved at the next board meeting.

Pepper spoke about a resident of The Bixby Home who is wandering on other people's property. DiNardo advised Adult Protective Services was notified.

Treasurer: balances of accounts read.

Richardson motioned, Pepper seconded, to make a budget modification to use ARPA funds to pay Architectural Concrete (headwall on Clinton Street); carried.

Richardson motioned, Garcia seconded, to use the fund balance if ARPA funds cannot be used for 4421.10; carried.

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

Old Business:

- HOLDING payment of bills: Terracon, Flagg, Milton CAT
 - Milton CAT has not responded to inquiries; Ahouse will follow up.

New Business:

- Resolution for voter registration day/election inspectors.
 - There needs to be a legal notice informing residents they can register for the Village election at the County.
 - Richardson motioned, Garcia seconded, to approve Maribea Marranca and Diane Bassette Nelson as election inspectors; carried.

WHEREAS Village Residents are able to complete voter registration in person at the County Office Building, or by mail, and

WHEREAS the value of holding a local registration day is outweighed by the cost to the village for holding a registration day, now therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Village of Interlaken will not hold a voter registration day in 2023 and be it further

RESOLVED that the Village of Interlaken Clerk will have a supply of voter registration cards available at the Village Office for village residents and be it further

RESOLVED the March 21, 2023 Village Elections will be held at the Village Hall, 8369 Main Street, Interlaken, NY between the hours of 12:00 Noon and 9:00 PM and be it further

RESOLVED Election Inspectors appointed are Diane Bassette Nelson and Maribea Marranca

Additional Comments:

Borden asked about a grant writer, saying the department is missing out on a lot of FEMA grants. Richardson advised he was looking into another grant writer, Greg Zellers, because G&G Municipal Consulting and Grant Writing has been unresponsive.

Del Plato inquired about the Village's compliance with the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act. Borden spoke about the fire department's use

of more batter powered tools, including rescue tools and the recent fan purchase. DiNardo advised there were grants available, but he would need a grant writer to help write the application. Ahouse advised electric pickup trucks suitable for their needs would not be available for many years. Richardson mentioned the installation of the air-source heat pumps in the Village office. Richardson advised there was no word on the Downtown Revitalization Initiative NY Forward grant.

Adjournment: Richardson motioned, Del Plato seconded, to adjourn at 7:27 PM; carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Quan, Deputy Village Clerk