

Minutes of the Interlaken Village Board of Trustees meeting held on Thursday, 16 May 2024 at the Village Hall and via GoTo Meeting.

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

Excused: Trustee Kempf, Trustee Pepper.

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

Public Present: Maxine Flagg, Paul Flagg, Phil Stannard, Christopher Tuffo.

Mayor Richardson called the meeting to order at 6:29 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes:

Del Plato motioned, Garcia seconded, to accept the minutes from the 11 April 2024 Regular Board Meeting; Richardson: aye, Del Plato: aye, Garcia: aye.

Public to be Heard:

Paul Flagg outlined the transaction of the purchase of his property for the Village pump house project. He spoke of the \$46,579.49 in legal fees. He stated that in numerous discussions the Village provided no response or counter argument that legal costs would be included as part of the cost of the project.

Phil Stannard invited the board members to the 9 AM 27 May Memorial Day Memorial Honors Ceremony; County Manager Kyle Lovell will be the speaker. Stannard also reported on the collecting of plastic pill bottles by the Interlaken Grange: 500 bottles were collected and shipped in March; 612, April; STEPS paid for shipping costs.

Library:

DPW dug holes for lilac bushes Green Thumb Garden Club will plant in memory of Bev Hancox and Kate Hunt.

Fire:

There were 13 calls in April.

Members did a great job at a fire in Lodi.

Joint training at Conifer Village went well. The department confirmed the ground ladder can reach nearly everywhere needed.

Everyone did a great job responding to the tractor rollover in Covert.

Henry Esh is finishing up the rope rescue class.

Brian Freeman continues with the interior structural firefighting class.

Seven members signed up for the 22 June physical examination.

Engine 503 had the front bumper damaged; a new one has been ordered.

Insurance will not be used because the cost of the bumper is just over the deductible; Borden will install the bumper.

Borden spoke of OSHA's proposed Emergency Response Standard. He encouraged reviewing the document or watching the webinar of the proposal. The public comment period is scheduled to conclude 21 June 2024. He advised if the Emergency Response Standard passes, it will cost municipalities a lot of money and even have the potential of shutting down some departments. More information about the proposed standard and commenting: National Volunteer Fire Council. (2024, May 22). *OSHA Proposed Emergency Response Standard*.

<https://www.nvfc.org/osha-standard/>

A chicken barbecue, supporting the South Seneca High School Class of 2024 and Trap Club will start at noon on 18 May; Barkee and Borden will cook the food and students will serve.

The department is set for Olde Home Days.

Water:

The work on the lead service line inventory is progressing.

Waiting on the Department of Health to approve the pump station design plan.

Michelle Henry should be close to completing the mapping. Alternatives to the subscription-based geographic information system (GIS) will be investigated.

Helped Ovid finish two 1-inch service lines.

The meter head ordered months ago arrived.

Completed a pump station class by NY Water Environment Association in SYR.

Sewer:

A plug on Prospect Street was determined to be a service line.

Discussed a few things about the plant design with Tim Steed.

Worked with Chuck Franzese on the sewer use law.

Department of Health believes the new plant will have a 2A classification. Ahouse will look for pricing for 2A plant operation.

Streets and Equipment:

Cleaned plow damage and stone piles from yards.

Repaired driveway gravel to pavement at the village hall.

Hauled a lot of mulch.

Dumpster day went well. Somebody threw in a mattress after hours.

Assisted the county with sweeping of Cayuga Street.

Mowing is usually required twice weekly.

Ahouse will seek pricing for grinding.

Ahouse will contact DOT to have signs repaired that were knocked down.

The zero turn mower and tractor have had their batteries replaced.

Removed broom from the tractor and installed the loader and fork rack.

Ahouse said VanNederynen did a good job during his absence.
Ahouse will post an advertisement for summer help.

Police:

There were 144 calls for service, 24 traffic citations issued.

Seneca County Code Enforcement has been notified of a barn being constructed behind a West Avenue residence and a wall falling off a trailer on Cayuga Street. Spring range training is rescheduled for 28 May.

Barricades and signs have been ordered for Olde Home Days.

Discussion about signage for the water tower park and the state's involvement. NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) Office of Program Development and Funding (OPDF) awarded a \$99,900 grant for the cost of two marked police cars and basic lighting. Upfitting—not covered by the grant—of the vehicles is an additional \$15k each.

NYSDCJS awarded a Law Enforcement Technology (LETECH) grant totaling \$58,992 for use for body cameras, car computers, license plate readers, TASERs.

Dwello suggested hiring Mari Giurastante to write an Office of Community Oriented Policing (COPS) grant for one full-time police officer which covers three of the five years of payroll costs. Del Plato motioned, Richardson seconded, to approve the hiring of Giurastante for writing the COPS grant; Richardson: aye, Del Plato: aye, Garcia: aye.

Dwello suggested Giurastante could also write a FEMA grant to update the radio systems to triband for both the fire and police departments.

Fingerprinting and a background check have been completed for Christopher Tuffo. Ford Explorer has been upfitted.

Dwello was thankful for the help Ahouse and VanNederynen provided in retrieving the vehicles after service.

Dwello spoke of how hybrid vehicles would be more suitable for the policing style in the village.

Treasurer: balances of accounts read.

Budget modifications are necessary: information technology (IT), law contractual, library, insurance, police, streetlights. Richardson motioned, Garcia seconded, to approve the budget modifications; Richardson: aye, Del Plato: aye, Garcia: aye.

Approval of Bills: Del Plato motioned, Garcia seconded, to approve vouchers in: General Fund (#333-358: \$7,478.89), Water Fund (#112-114: \$711.32), Sewer Fund (#72-74: \$3,425.63) for payment, Water Project (#12: \$459.); Sewer Project (#8: \$40.51); Richardson: aye, Del Plato: aye, Garcia: aye.

Old Business:

- ◆ Award trash bid: Village attorney advised clarification of bids can be sought. Richardson motioned, Del Plato seconded, to award the 2024-2025 trash contract to Cardinal Disposal; Richardson: aye, Del Plato: aye, Garcia: aye.
- ◆ Drying Beds: On hold pending plant design modification and rebid.
- ◆ Fisher Associates: no update on BridgeNY grant.
- ◆ Camden Group: awaiting bid. Wes will follow up

New Business:

- ◆ Richardson motioned, Del Plato seconded, to adopt the following resolution putting old well sites on the market and putting money from sales back into the capital water plant reserve on 16 May 2024; Richardson: aye, Del Plato: aye, Garcia: aye:

WHEREAS funds to purchase land for the new Water Pump Station came from the Capital Water Plant & Systems Reserve, and

WHEREAS the new Water Pump Station will draw water from Cayuga Lake, and

WHEREAS there is no longer a need for three old wells located at Lodi Covert Townline Road (tax map 10-1-18), Darling Road (tax map 13-1-07) and Tunison Road (tax map 05-1-45.2) and Tunison Road (tax map 07-1-04)

THEREFORE, the proceeds from the sale of these well will go back into the Capital Water Plant & Systems Reserve

- ◆ Garcia motioned, Del Plato seconded, to introduce the following resolution on 16 May 2024; Richardson: aye, Del Plato: aye, Garcia: aye:

RESOLUTION WITH REFERENCE TO THE PROPOSED VILLAGE OF INTERLAKEN, SENECA COUNTY, NY SEWER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

WHEREAS, on December 9, 2021, the Village of Interlaken was awarded a \$1,250,000. Community Development Block Grant (CDBG #570PR38-21) to complete improvements to the Village's sewer system, and

WHEREAS, regulatory approval of the plans and specification not received until January 2024 which delayed bid advertisement for the project until February 25, 2024, and

WHEREAS, bids were opened on April 3, 2024, and found to be significantly over the construction estimate and bond authorization for the project, and

WHEREAS, affordability for Village residents and property owners is a significant concern and additional funding is needed to make the project more affordable which will delay the project further, and

WHEREAS, CDBG feels the project is not progressing per CDBG guidelines and has determined that no further extensions will be given for this project,

NOW, THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED as follows:

1. The Village Board hereby withdraws the CDBG application and de-obligates the \$1,250,000. CDBG funds.
 2. The Village Board authorizes Mayor Richard Richardson to execute a letter notifying NYS Office for Community Renewal of the Boards desire to withdraw and de-obligate CDBG grant #570PR38-21.
 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.
- ◆ Water Tower Park report: donations will be collected for the park during the Saturday event.

Executive Session:

Garcia motioned, Del Plato seconded, to enter executive session to discuss legal fees and potential employment at 8:13 PM; Richardson: aye, Del Plato: aye, Garcia: aye.

Del Plato motioned, Richardson seconded, to exit executive session at 8:38 PM; Richardson: aye, Del Plato: aye, Garcia: aye.

Garcia motioned, Del Plato seconded, to approve hiring Christopher Tuffo for the position of part-time non-competitive police officer; Richardson: aye, Del Plato: aye, Garcia: aye.

Additional Comments:

Richardson said the narrative Mr. Flagg presented this evening does not reflect the views of the village. Additionally, he said a non-response to a conversation regarding letters to the Village does not mean the members of the board agree with the opinion presented.

Adjournment: Richardson motioned, Del Plato seconded, to adjourn at 8:40 PM; Richardson: aye, Del Plato: aye, Garcia: aye.

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Quan, Deputy Village Clerk