

Minutes of the Interlaken Village Board of Trustees meeting held on Thursday, 14 December 2023 at the Village Hall and via GoTo Meeting.

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

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

Public Present: Stephanie Richard.

Mayor Richardson called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes:

Del Plato motioned, Richardson seconded, to accept the minutes from the 09 November 2023 Regular Board Meeting; Kempf: aye, Garcia: aye, Pepper: aye.

Fire:

There were 11 calls in November.

The Village needs to vote on the firefighter property tax credit. The credit is a small price to pay for the volunteer service everyone benefits from.

The department took in two new members in November. Kempf motioned, Garcia seconded, to accept Levi Swarey and Melvin Swarey as new members of the Interlaken Fire Department; Richardson: aye, Del Plato: aye, Pepper: aye.

Christmas tree sales were great: 106 trees sold.

Water:

Repaired/replaced three water meters.

Received chlorine shipment.

Reviewed work at the school with Harley Connelly (HUNT EAS).

Helped Ovid with a 2-inch tap, which ended up being an all-day repair.

Helped Ovid with valves at Verona Village.

Brush hogged all water lines and other property outside the village.

Pumped down and winterized hydrants.

Ordered new meters.

Rebuilt Ross valve; it's in good working condition again.

Put posted signs on village property outside of the village.

Normal reports and sampling to Seneca County Health Department.

Drafted a letter to Feldman requesting they install a backflow preventer because of tenant complaints of odd smelling water. The smell may be a result of them using the boiler to preheat the hot water line.

Richardson reported the paperwork for the water project is nearly complete: the engineers completed the final maps for Flagg; Majoros is expected shortly.

Sewer:

Brush hogged all sewer transmission lines and around the sewer plant. The heater stopped working because of rust and corrosion. A new heater costs over \$1k; instead of buying one, they used a vent free unit used for backups from the shop. It seems to be working okay; the dehumidifier is keeping up with the heater, but they will monitor for condensation as the weather gets colder. Had a short virtual meeting with HUNT EAS about changes on the sewer plant. Normal operation sampling from YAWS Environmental and pumping from Brewers Septic. Richardson reported DEC approved plans for the sewer plant. The maps have been received; formal documents need to be drafted and the land for the drying beds needs to be purchased. The project can go out for bid.

Streets and Equipment:

Straightened up street and stop signs. Took flags down and put Christmas lights up. Ahouse donated a large wreath which they hung on the shop barn wall. Brush hogged the firehouse. Put the plow on the tractor and the pickup. Some snow was plowed. Changed oil on the tractor and the pickup. Went to a CHIPS meeting at the County Highway garage. DPW may apply for the little bit of bridge money available. Replaced filters and added additive in the fuel tanks behind the firehouse. There were a lot of large brush piles this month. Filled potholes at the shop driveway. Ahouse would like to get seat covers and a tonneau cover for the pickup truck; he will get pricing. Ahouse spoke with Bob Champion about the railing over at the culvert; Chemung Supply will have someone look at putting one up. Richardson reported he has not heard from Fisher Engineering regarding the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant. He will follow up with them regarding the grant as well as mapping for the State Route 96 culvert.

Police:

There were 175 calls for service; 75 traffic citations were issued. Monthly report submitted to NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services. STOP-DWI conducted on 22 November resulted in one arrest and nine citations. During the Police Chiefs meeting, the 2007 E-911 Center policy was updated to address concerns about status checks on officers during calls and traffic stops. Dwello reported his participation in the Police Supervision program is complete. Complied with a FOIL request regarding an incident occurring at Quik Shoppe.

Sergeant DiNardo, Officer Morse, and Officer O'Neal resigned. Equipment and uniforms have been returned except for a short sleeve shirt and a firearm magazine issued to O'Neal.

Three of the four missing holsters have been replaced.

Portable and mobile radios have been assigned to specific officers (units have identifiers) and are registered with the E-911 Center.

Ordered new police department patches.

Issued a new bulletproof vest for Robertson; ordered one for Worrell.

The department needs to order a First Responder Trauma Kit.

A \$360 AWD part for the Dodge charger is on backorder. A new water pump thermostat and rear antisway bar link is also needed.

Richardson spoke of the bond resolution needed for the new police vehicles. The bond, authorizing the expenditure of funds, is good for five years. Richardson motioned, Del Plato seconded, to approve the bond resolution; Kempf: aye, Garcia: aye, Pepper: aye.

Treasurer: balances of accounts read.

Budget modifications are necessary: funds received from the E. Byrne Memorial Grant needs to go back to police equipment; adjustments are needed in CHIPS 2023, Accounts Payable, Law Contractual, and Office Renovations. Richardson motioned, Garcia seconded, to approve the budget modifications; Kempf: aye, Del Plato: aye, Pepper: aye.

Approval of Bills: Kempf motioned, Del Plato seconded, to approve vouchers in: General Fund (#180-219: \$14,800.23), Water Fund (#56-71: \$11,886.91), Sewer Fund (#41-49: \$3,481.79) for payment; Richardson: aye, Garcia: aye, Pepper: aye.

Old Business:

Del Plato will investigate trash tag use and report findings in January.

Code update workshop scheduled for 04 January 2024 at 5:30 PM.

RESOLUTION ADOPTING AND GRANTING 10% REAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION TO QUALIFIED FIRE FIGHTERS AND AMBULANCE WORKERS PER NEW YORK REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW

On December 14, 2023, the following Resolution was duly presented for consideration by the Village Board of the Village of Interlaken, Seneca County, New York:

WHEREAS, NYS amended and updated the law to permit a partial tax exemption for certain firefighters and emergency services personnel, and their spouses and surviving spouses, through the adoption of § 466-a, et seq. of the Real Property Tax Law; and

WHEREAS, this action is a Type II SEQRA Action such that no environmental review is mandated or required, and a public hearing upon such local law was duly and properly noticed and held at the Village of Interlaken Village Hall upon the 11th day of January 2024, whereat all persons interested in the subject matter of this local law were duly heard and, upon deliberation thereupon, the Village Board of the Village of Interlaken has hereby resolved as follows:

Kempf motioned, Garcia seconded; Richardson: aye, Del Plato: aye, Pepper: aye.

Adjournment: Pepper motioned, Richardson seconded, to adjourn at 7:08 PM; Kempf: aye, Del Plato: aye, Garcia: aye.

Respectfully submitted,
Brian Quan, Deputy Village Clerk