

THE RUSHVILLE VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

November 8, 2021

DATE: 11/8/21

TIME: 7:00pm

PLACE: The Rushville Village Hall

PRESENT: Mayor Dave LeClair, Trustee Doug Rigby, Trustee Karen Gorton, Trustee Mark Fargo, Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman, Clerk Jeannie Kesel, Code Officer Tim Pagel, DPW Art Rilands, Reading Center Director Dodie Baker and Fire Chief Paul Moberg

Approximately 12 people attended the meeting (sign in sheet available at the Village Office)

The Mayor called the Board Meeting to order at 7:00 pm

RE: Salute to the Flag:

The Mayor asked everyone to rise and join in the Pledge to the Flag.

RE: Approval of Minutes:

The Mayor asked the Trustees if they had any corrections to the board minutes from the October 18, 2021 meeting. Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman had a couple of minor changes.

Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman made a motion to approve the October 18, 2021 minutes with corrections. Trustee Doug Rigby made a 2nd to the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

RE: Mayor's Report

Mayor Dave LeClair gave his Mayor's report as follows:

- The Comprehensive Plan Kick-Off meeting will be on November 16 at 6:30pm. It will be a joint meeting of all Boards. Focus groups will be formed. To start the process, the Mayor suggested that the following people be asked to serve on the steering committee: Village Board – Chandra Gilman, Planning Board – Jamie Landcastle and another Planning Board Member, Zoning Board of Appeals – David Bradshaw, Library – Dodie Baker or Lynne McGill, Historians – Nancy Cleveland, Senior over 55-citizen – Chuck Elwell, Tenant/resident under 5 years residents – TBD, Resident/tenant over 10 years residency – TBD, Resident/tenant under 40 years of age – TBD. These are suggestions and subject to change. The folks mentioned above have not been approached. Open for discussion. Matt Horn and Angelina White from MRB will be the coordinators during the process.
- A draft copy of the Intermunicipal Agreement (IMA) with Middlesex was included in the board packets for Board Member's review. The Mayor propose we have this agreement in place by the end of the year so we can begin billing at the higher rate.
- The Mayor met with the Business Officer from Marcus Whitman School to discuss the new water rate structure. The new structure is an unwelcomed surprise, but expressed understanding and will bring the topic up at the next School board meeting. Due to contractual obligations any increase will be effective July 1, 2022 with the 1st billing October 1, 2022. The increase per contract cannot exceed the Village rate and any case no more than 6% per year can be imposed without consent. Our proposed rate is more, so the Village is requesting voluntary compliance until at least 2023 upon expiration of the current contract. The Mayor will update the Board at the December Board Meeting.

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- Inside/Outside Users and Castle Street Apartments – Information letters have been sent out regarding the proposed rate increase taking effect January 1, 2022 for water and July 1, 2022 (tentative) for sewer.
- Jeannie said about 24 Sewer Use Surveys have been returned.
- American Rescue Plan – The Mayor suggested that the Board continue discussions on how best to use the \$64,000 that was awarded to the Village. There are four categories eligible for the funding which is to be determined at the discretion of the community:
 - Village Infrastructure improvements
 - Recovering lost Village revenues
 - Recovering Village expenses caused by COVID-19 response
 - Support of local business, households, non-profits and other entities that suffered a financial hardship.
- Art said that there was water line work – there is about 400’ of 2” water main line which could be replaced with 8” line. It would cost about \$100 per foot (would include engineering and construction costs). Art also suggested that some fire hydrants could be replaced. Also, line valves are original and sometimes these lines leak
- The Mayor wanted to get the Board’s agreement on how best to spend these funds. Trustee Mark Fargo said that infrastructure was important. The Mayor and Jeannie will find out the timeline for spending these funds.
- The fire truck was sold. The Village received \$16,000.
- Yates County Natural and Recreational Resources Grant – Chandra, Dodie and the Mayor met to discuss a possible event next year in October before Halloween. Chandra had a great idea that involved a Fall Celebration. It might include a pumpkin race – where individuals would get a pumpkin kit with wheels for their pumpkin. They could race the pumpkins on Warren Street. Also, there could be a costume contest, a pumpkin walk on the Moody Trail and other types of entertainment. More information to come.
- Ed and Chandra Gilman again this year obtained some swamp oak trees that are donated to the Village for planting. Art and Mike will find a good planting location.

RE: Deputy Mayor’s Report

- No Report

RE: Public Comments:

- Dave Bradshaw wanted to know if there was an update on Dollar General, since he had not been at the last few meetings. The Mayor mentioned that an offer from Dollar General was turned down by Jim Liebel. Dave asked if the Gorham Road location was off the table. The Mayor said that location was off the table.

RE: Public Works Supervisor:

Streets:

- Leaf pick up has started and will last for the next few weeks. The sander is ready and some sand and salt has been hauled in.

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Water:

- We have stopped doing the HABS testing for the year.
- We have the quarterly PFOB testing and the annual testing for this year.

Sewer:

- The sewer flows are really high with all the rain. One day 600,000 gallons went through the plant, a normal day is about 45,000 gallons. The flow from the school needs to be looked at.
- Art believes that there are sump pumps hooked to the sewer lines in houses. This is not allowed in our sewer ordinance. Trustee Mark Fargo wanted to know how the Village can identify which houses have sump pumps connected to the sewer. Art said that it is difficult to identify. The Mayor suggested that the Village might consider incentivizing these residents to disconnect. The Mayor suggested a possible sewer charge on every sewer bill and the owner would prove that they are not connected and then the sewer charge would be removed from their bill. The sump pumps should be discharged to the property owner's lawn.

Village Hall:

- Proctor has completed the roof repair on the front half of the building. Pictures are in your folders. Between the two projects the entire roof has been redone.

RE: Trail:

- We have worked on the trail. There were a couple of areas that washed out.
- Next year's budget should include money to work on the trail. There are a couple of areas where the creek washed out close to the trail. Art will talk with the Town of Gorham.

RE: Fire Report:

- Paul would like a reserve account set up for the future purchase of a fire truck.
- Department physicals are in process.
- Replacement gear takes about 6 months for orders to arrive. The department is looking into replacing some gear since the grant was turned down. Helmets - \$355, Boots - \$480, Front Hoods - \$85, Turnout Gear - \$2520, Full Gear - \$3440. Hoping to reapply for the grant next year. Trustee Mark Fargo suggested adding a line budget item for fire gear and replace a couple of sets each year.
- Paul would like to purchase a gear drier (\$8400).
- Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman suggested that the Village might request more money from Potter and Gorham for the fire service our Fire Department supplies these towns.

RE: Reading Center Director:

- STLS last month awarded a few libraries the "Sustainable Practices Award" - Rushville, Middlesex, Hornell and Arkport received this award. These libraries advocated for necessary financial resources during COVID-19 to ensure the future of their library operations.
- Dodie attended a virtual conference on Gather & Grow: Cultivating Inclusive Communities. The library has received Stacey Lee's new Young Adult book, "Luck of the Titanic" for attending.
- Halloween at the Library was a huge success. Dodie made up 149 treat bags and 200 Lollipops in the Lollipop tree. We served about 175-180 children. We decorated the front of the library like a Halloween pajama party.

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- Friday, December 3rd will be the **6th Annual Christmastime in Rushville**. It will start with the tree lighting at the library. Then Santa gifts for the children, also, mitten and glove give-away and hopefully more. Any questions contact the library at 554-3939.
- Our new rotating large print book collection is out on the shelves
- Saturday, November 13th is “World Kindness Day”. Be kind to someone!
- The library will be closed Friday, November 26th. Happy Thanksgiving Everyone!
- My volunteer, Dawn LeMay and myself have registered for the “First Annual National CSLP (Cooperative Summer Library Program) Symposium”.
- We are excited to start planning for the “Oceans of Possibilities” – Summer 2022 Program!

RE: Code Enforcement officer:

- Inspection of projects in progress
- Tim is working with the owner for the new build on Douglas Drive
- Working on resolving life safety issues at 13 South Main Street
- Working with a second new house on Douglas Drive
- Follow up on 9 Chapel Street – Progress is still being made
- Obtaining required training through webinars

RE: Resolution 18-2021 to Raise Water Rates:

A motion to raise water rates effective January 1, 2022 and to start the increase with the April 2022 billing was made by Trustee Doug Rigby and seconded by Trustee Mark Fargo.

There was a rollcall vote –

Trustee Doug Rigby	Yes
Trustee Karen Gorton	Yes
Trustee Mark Fargo	Yes
Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman	Yes
Mayor David LeClair	Yes

The motion was unanimously passed.

Re Resolution 19-2021 Authorizing the Village Mayor to Sign Proposal for Professional Services with MRB Group for Preliminary Engineering Report for a Water Treatment Plant Evaluation:

A motion to authorize the Village Mayor to sign the proposal for professional services with MRB Group for preliminary engineering report for a water treatment plant evaluation was made by Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman and seconded by Trustee Mark Fargo.

There was a rollcall vote –

Trustee Doug Rigby	Yes
Trustee Karen Gorton	Yes
Trustee Mark Fargo	Yes
Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman	Yes

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Yes

The motion was unanimously passed.

Re Clerk:

-Jeannie presented to the Board the lists of Unpaid Village Taxes for Ontario and Yates counties.

Re Bills:

A motion was made by Trustee Doug Rigby and seconded by Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman to authorize payment of the General bills in the amount of \$53,197.75. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Doug Rigby and seconded by Trustee Karen Gorton to authorize payment of the Cemetery bills in the amount of \$534.94. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman and seconded by Trustee Doug Rigby to authorize payment of the Water bills in the amount of \$4,998.18. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Doug Rigby and seconded by Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman to authorize the payment of the Sewer bills in the amount of \$3,298.83. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Doug Rigby and seconded by Trustee Karen Gorton to authorize the payment of the Capital Project bills in the amount of \$2,669.75. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion to adjourn the regular meeting and to go into Executive Session was made by Trustee Mark Fargo. A 2nd was received from Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman. The motion was unanimously passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 pm.

A motion to open back up the Board Meeting was made by Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman and seconded by Trustee Mark Fargo at 8:35pm. The motion was unanimously passed.

The Mayor presented to the Board Members a Default Notice Pending Foreclosure letter for the property at 13 South Main Street that was mailed to Jim Liebel on November 3, 2021. Mr. Liebel owes the Village almost \$7,000.00 plus his water bills. All the Board Members agreed that full payment is required, by the end of business on Monday, November 15, 2021, or the Mayor will instruct the Village Attorney, Tom Blair, to start foreclosure proceedings. Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman asked if the full payment should include the outstanding water bill. The Mayor said that was not necessary because that would follow the normal process for outstanding water bills.

A motion to begin legal proceeding that may include a foreclosure action in the matter of 13 South Main Street, Rushville, NY, if the outstanding balance is not paid in full by the end of business on Monday, November 15, 2021 was made by Trustee Doug Rigby and a second by Trustee Mark Fargo.

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There was a rollcall vote –

Trustee Doug Rigby	Yes
Trustee Karen Gorton	Yes
Trustee Mark Fargo	Yes
Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman	Yes
Mayor David LeClair	Yes

The motion was unanimously passed.

A motion to adjourn was made by Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman. A 2nd was received from Trustee Doug Rigby. The motion was unanimously passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannie Kesel, Clerk/Treasurer

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