

THE RUSHVILLE VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

January 9, 2023

DATE: 1/9/23

TIME: 6:50pm

PLACE: The Rushville Village Hall

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

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

The Mayor called the Public Hearing on Proposed Law #1 of 2023 entitled "A Local Law Increasing the Alternative Veterans' Exemption from Real Property Taxation".

There were no public comments.

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 December 12, 2022 meeting. Trustee Karen Gorton had a few minor changes. Trustee Karen Gorton made a motion to approve the December 12, 2022 minutes as corrected. Trustee Mark Fargo made a 2nd to the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

RE: Public Comments:

Matt Horn, Angelina White & Rhonda Destino from MRB presented the Draft of the Comprehensive Plan. Matt said MRB has been working with the Village for the past 9 months. He explained that this plan is a road map to create a decision-making guide for the Village for approximately the next 20 years. All areas about the Village were reviewed. A lot of time was spent with the residents getting their input and ideas. The steering committee help guide this process. There will be a public hearing at the next Board Meeting on February 13. All residents are invited to attend to ask questions on the Plan.

Jim Liebel, owner of the building at 13 South Main Street (Old Martin Building) wanted to address the Board. He wants to work together with the Village to verify his property lines. The Mayor said that from the beginning of the mortgage there have not been timely mortgage payments. Trustee Karen Gorton asked Jim when the Village could expect a payment to make him current. Jim said that he has asked multiple times for an updated survey map. The Mayor said that he has delivered a copy, has taped it to Jim's door and emailed him a copy. Jim says he never received it and he will not make a mortgage payment until he receives a survey map. The Mayor said Jim missed a meeting scheduled a few months ago with himself and Jeannie, the Clerk. Jim continued to push the Board to work with him. Trustee Mark Fargo asked Jim when

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the Village could expect payment. Jim did not have a response. The Mayor thanked Jim Liebel for coming and told him that there was nothing further to discuss.

RE: Local Law #1 of 2023 entitled “A Local Law Increasing the Alternative Veterans’ Exemption from Real Property Taxation”.

Trustee Doug Rigby made a motion to pass the Local Law #1 of 2023 entitled “A Local Law Increasing the Alternative Veterans’ Exemption from Real Property Taxation and was seconded by Trustee Mark Fargo. The motion was unanimously carried.

Resolution 1-2023 – To Schedule a Public Hearing to Continue the Review of the Comprehensive Plan

The above resolution to schedule a public hearing on February 13, 2020 at 6:50pm to continue the review of the Comprehensive Plan Draft was offered by Trustee Doug Rigby and seconded by Trustee Karen Gorton.

There was a rollcall vote –

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

The motion was unanimously carried.

RE: Resolution 2-2023 –Authorizing Drinking Water Treatment Plant Enhancements and Building Addition

The above resolution Authorizing Drinking Water Treatment Plant enhancements and building Addition was introduced by Trustee Karen Gorton 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	Absent
Mayor David LeClair	Yes

The motion was unanimously carried

RE: Mayor’s Report:

- The Mayor reminded the Board that last meeting by a majority vote we passed Resolution 12-2022 authorizing up to \$10K for the RD funding application. After further discussion with

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BPD and MRB, it would make more sense to have MRB do the application at an actual cost of \$4K rather than \$10K authorized. Donegan's office would have to retrieve much of the information from MRB and is the reason for the higher initial cost for the submittal of the Rural Development grant/funding application. So, there is a savings there

- As you know we also spoke about other costs at the last meeting as follows
 - G&G consulting income survey - \$8K
 - MRB Engineering USDA RD application \$4K
 - MRB Engineering Environmental and grant writing \$17.5K
 - Donegan's office – Municipal Advisor Services – TBD
- These costs would be distributed over the 2023 and 2024 budget years. You will be interested to know that the Village just received \$10K as part of a county grant for our participation in the Yates County Water Infrastructure Study completed in 2022. That will offset some of these initial costs.
- You will also find the proposal from BPD Financial Advisors. The total cost of the \$78.5K would be included in the total construction cost in the grant application and would be most likely distributed over 2023-2026. I anticipate approximately \$10K needed initially for the work up to the CDBG application.
- The first step is to see what the Village can obtain in the way of grants and financing from USDA RD, after that, the CDBG grant application process will begin. We anticipate obtaining most of the project cost from that application, up to \$1.2M according to Greg Hotaling from MRB. In the unlikely event that the Village does not obtain financing, then the process would stop and we would owe for the work up to that point.
- On January 5, 2023, I spoke with Charlie Philion from NYS Office of Community Renewal and reviewed the above-mentioned process. He seemed to think that everything was in order and reminded me that the CDBG grant is the last after all other funding sources have been exhausted. He did not see any other alternatives to reduce any up-front soft costs.
- As you know we have already had a violation resulting in a water advisory. Our efforts up to this point have been aimed at providing the safest drinking/potable water possible. Construction will also include a cross-connection with the Gorham Water Plant as an emergency backup which is invaluable. I recommend moving forward with the project.
- The Mayor suggested that we begin the budget process and schedule a workshop with Matt Horn, MRB. Jeannie will set up a date and time.

RE: Deputy Mayor's Report:

- No Report

RE: Watershed Commission Report – Trustee Mark Fargo:

- No Report

RE: Public Works Supervisor:

Water:

- Having trouble with the diatomaceous earth pumps plugging at the plant. I'm working on solving that problem.
- The chlorine chemicals have doubled in price in the last year.

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Streets:

- Not plowing or sanding much. Training in ongoing with Neal and Bob.
- There are quite of few street lights out. Jeannie has contacted NYSEG in the Geneva office. They said they have moved the Village to the top of the list.
- Our attorney is working on the dedication of Douglas Drive.

Sewer:

- Having a lot of trouble with the sludge not settling in the sludge holding tank. This is an important part of the sludge handling in the plant. We've had one vendor and one person from MRB out to look at the problem. It's costing the Village more money to have the sludge hauler take sludge away. We were pumping about once a month and now it's pumped every two weeks at \$400 per time. Painted the floor in the building.

Village Hall:

- We have been doing a lot of work in the basement, trying to make it look better.

Cemetery:

- Did some work in the vault so we can store street signs and traffic control devices in it.

Barn:

- We have been cleaning and organizing the barn. All of the picnic tables have been painted.

RE: Fire Report:

- No Report.

RE: Reading Center Director:

- The next team from STLD will be coming in February to barcode our inventory
- Saturday, January 21st at 10:00 am – **Adult Craft Time**. Recycled CD coasters. All of the supplies are provided. Come into the library during open hours to sign up and get more information or call 554-3939.
- Monday, January 30th from 3-7 pm – **Draw a Dinosaur Day!** Just walk in – supplies are provided. Also, get coloring pages or loan out books about dinosaurs or any other book or DVD.
- Tuesday, January 31st from 10-11 am – Dawn will have her next **"Storytime"**. Stories, craft and a snack. Tell your friends, It's Backwards Day!
- Sign up before February 4th for this Class – **Vegetable Gardening Class** – Saturday, February 4th from 9-11 am.
- **ALL THE ABOVE CLASSES ARE FREE!**
- The expected time for our Charter to be completed is JULY of 2023. This is a very slow process. NY State has confirmed that they have received our paperwork. Now we have to wait. Brian will contact me as things progress.

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RE: Code Enforcement Officer:

- Issue Permits
- Inspection of projects in progress
- Work with contractor on Foster house
- Attend CEO meeting
- On-going inspections of Foster, Bay and Matcham projects

RE: Clerk:

- Jeannie presented a list of budget transfers.

A motion was made by Trustee Mark Fargo and seconded by Trustee Doug Rigby to accept the budget transfers. The motion was unanimously carried.

RE: Public Comments:

- None

RE: Bills:

A motion was made by Trustee Doug Rigby and seconded by Trustee Karen Gorton to authorize payment of the General bills in the amount of \$12,011.89. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Mark Fargo and seconded by Trustee Doug Rigby to authorize payment of the Cemetery in the amount of \$111.83. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Doug Rigby and seconded by Trustee Karen Gorton to authorize payment of the Water bills in the amount of \$10,177.03. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Karen Gorton and seconded by Trustee Mark Fargo to authorize the payment of the Sewer bills in the amount of \$7,116.88. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Mark Fargo and seconded by Trustee Doug Rigby to authorize payment of the Library bills in the amount of \$784.79. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Mark Fargo and seconded by Trustee Doug Rigby to authorize payment of the TE bills in the amount of \$1,000.00. The motion was unanimously carried.

RE: Public Comments:

- None

A motion to adjourn at 8:40pm and go into Executive Session was made by Trustee Mark Fargo. A 2nd was received from Trustee Doug Rigby. The motion was unanimously passed.

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A motion to reopen the meeting at 8:50pm and go into Regular Session was made by Trustee Mark Fargo. A 2nd was received from Trustee Doug Rigby. The motion was unanimously passed.

The Mayor, Dave LeClair made a recommendation that the Village begin the foreclosure process and turn the matter over to Tom Blair, the Village's attorney.

A motion to begin the foreclosure process and turn the matter over to Tom Blair, the Village's attorney 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	Absent
Mayor David LeClair	Yes

The motion was unanimously carried

A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Mark Fargo. A 2nd was received from Trustee Karen Gorton. The motion was unanimously passed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannie Kesel, Clerk/Treasurer

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