

THE RUSHVILLE VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

February 13, 2023

DATE: 2/13/23

TIME: 6:50pm

PLACE: The Rushville Village Hall

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

Approximately 15 people attended the meeting (sign in sheet available at the Village Office)

The Mayor called the Public Hearing to Continue the Review of the Comprehensive Plan Draft.

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 January 9, 2023 meeting. Trustee Doug Rigby made a motion to approve the January 9, 2023 minutes. Trustee Mark Fargo made a 2nd to the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

RE: Public Comments:

Matt Horn, from MRB Engineering reviewed the SEQR Full EAP Part 1 applications. He reviewed all the applicable questions. This form will be signed by the Mayor and submitted.

RE: Resolution 3-2023 – To Revise Village Sewer Rates

Trustee Mark Fargo thought this increase would be difficult under the current economic conditions. The Mayor reminded the Board Members that last year when Bernard P. Donegan's Office presented the sewer rate study it was suggested to increase the sewer rate \$30.00 per quarter starting with the October 2022 billing. Then starting with the October 2023 billing the sewer rate would increase \$10.00 per quarter each year thereafter through 2028.

The Mayor offered the above resolution. Trustee Mark Fargo motioned for approval and Trustee Karen Gorton seconded the motion.

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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Mayor David LeClair Yes

The motion was unanimously carried.

RE: Resolution 4-2023 – To Revise Village Water and Sewer Rates for the Marcus Whitman School District

The Mayor reminded the Board Members that the Village has a bond payment each year on the sewer plant upgrade. Also, last year when Bernard P. Donegan's Office presented the sewer rate study, it was agreed that the first year's increase would be \$30.00 per quarter starting with October 2022 billing. Then starting with the October 2023 billing the increase would be \$10.00 per quarter each year thereafter through 2028.

The Mayor offered the above resolution. Trustee Doug Rigby motioned for approval and Trustee Karen Gorton seconded the motion.

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 carried.

RE: Resolution 5-2023 – Resolution to Support Community Bank in the Village of Rushville

The Village has become aware of the imminent closing of Community Bank. Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman voiced her concern that so many residents and businesses rely on the bank and will be hurt with the closing of the bank.

Mayor David LeClair offered the above resolution. Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman motioned for approval and Trustee Mark Fargo seconded the motion.

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 carried

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RE: Resolution 6-2023 – SEQR Resolution Declaring the Intent to be Lead Agency

The Mayor offered the above resolution. Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman motioned for approval and Trustee Mark Fargo seconded the motion.

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 carried.

RE: Mayor’s Report:

- The Mayor wanted to review the resolution to increase rates to MWCSO – sewer rate will be \$150 per unit up \$10 from last year. Regarding the water, IMA limits annual increase of no more than 6% and shall not exceed the village rate which currently is \$7.76/1000. Their current rate of \$8.16 with the proposed 6% would be \$8.65 effective July 1, 2023 with first billing of October 1, 2023. District Superintendent, Chris Brown, emailed me after being notified of the proposed increases per contract. He would like the rate to be no more than a 3% increase. The district uses approximately 2.7 million gallons annually. Therefore, the following annual billing projections apply –

Current rate	$\$8.16 \times 2700 = \$22,032.00$
3% Reduced Rate Requested	$\$8.40 \times 2700 = \$22,680.00$
6% Contract Billing	$\$8.65 \times 2700 = \$23,355.00$

- It is my opinion to stay on course with contract provisions and increase the rate to \$8.654. I sent this message to Chris Brown and invited him to the meeting in case he wants to appeal. A new IMA will need to be executed by October 1, 2023 and I will update you on this status in the near future. He also implied that the district may want to convey the water tower and property in which it sits to the Village due to maintenance costs. He stated that it was informally suggested with the current IMA but never made it into the final document. Much more information is needed and I will update you in the near future. I asked him to provide a breakdown of maintenance cost. Chris said it costs approximately \$20,000 a year to maintain. On February 8, 2023, Chris Brown, School Superintendent, contacted me and confirmed that MWCSO will accept the rate increase as provided by the contract. He would like a meeting in the near future to discuss conveyance of the property and the tank.
- Cornell Design Connect – Park Design – I had a kick-off ZOOM meeting with graduate students – Alex Panovka and Lauren Oertel. They are forming a working student design team and will be engaging the Village in the near future. There will be some in person meetings, however, many of the meeting will be virtual. I hope that the Trustees and Planning Board can take part in the ZOOM meetings. We can make the computers available at the Village office, if needed. We probably won’t have a lot of flexibility with meeting date and times. I will keep you informed. Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman said the plan will be done in phases.

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- Memorial Day Parade – It will be in Rushville this year. Myself and the Village staff will be meeting with Dan Paddock and his committee to discuss this event. We met on February 8th and discussed much of the logistics and various responsibilities. Our next meeting will be on March 8th.
- Yates Bicentennial – We had a meeting at the Village Office with the Rushville Historical staff, Middlesex Heritage Group, a Middlesex Board Member and Carlie Chilson, Yates County Legislator. Many events are being planned around Yates County this year. One idea for Rushville might be a Bicentennial Party at the Village Park on August 26th with possible fireworks. Clearly other communities will need to help finance this event. Middlesex has already agreed to share costs. I approached Dudley's for a donation and that looks promising. I need to connect with Potter and Italy. I attended the official Yates County kick-off legislative meeting on February 6th where a proclamation was read along with support letter from politicians, including Chuck Schumer. Yates Legislators were dressed in period type clothing. Please let me know if you would be interested on working on this event with me. Trustee Mark Fargo and Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman voiced their safety concerns with fireworks in the Village. The Mayor said that was not definite for this event. At the kick-off meeting Carlie Chilson said the Village was having a parade, a picnic in the park and fireworks. The Mayor told the Board that these ideas were discussed at a meeting, but the Village did not commit to anything at that meeting.
- NYSEG Street Lights – I submitted a complaint to the Public Service Commission about street lights that are still out. Customer service has been a real problem for NYSEG and RG&E, meanwhile, we are paying the bills. Technical difficulties prevented me from participating in the virtual event last week. I have filed a written complaint. Art will check to see which lights might still be out.

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.

Streets:

- Snow plowing and sanding is on going.
- Started the Union Street storm pipe project today. Going to put pipe in and back fill ditch with dirt on the East side of the street. This will probably take a couple of weeks depending on the weather.

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Sewer:

- Sewer flows are up because of the wet weather. We did camera some sewer pipe looking for problems. We did not find anything. The sludge problem seems to be fixed, not totally sure why or how.

Village Hall:

- We rewired the upstairs and basement of the Village Hall. We got rid of all the really old wire from before the 60's. Had the electrical inspector in and he put a certificate on it. There was some nasty wire in some spots. Cleaned the upstairs storage room.
- I got a quote from Lester Martin on doing some window work. The upstairs windows in Tim's office is \$1,814.00. A new window for the History Room is \$1,460.00. (This was put on hold).

RE: Fire Report:

- Paul said that there was 1 student starting the BEFO class.
- The fire house has gotten a dishwasher. The Fire Department paid for the dishwasher and to have it installed.

RE: Reading Center Director:

- Mandy from STLS came on February 7th and went through all the coding of our library items with Dawn and myself. We are reviewing the paperwork to make sure it is the way we want it. More people from STLS will start barcoding the items and show us how to do it as well. We are very excited to be having this done.
- The Adult Craft Class on January 21st was well attended. We had 5 people to make recycled CD coasters.
- The vegetable gardening class held at the library on February 4th by CCE Yates County, Caroline Boutard-Hunt present the class. We had 5 people attend. It was very informative. Caroline will keep in touch with all the people to help them through this gardening season. I will keep in touch with her to do other classes throughout the year. We are looking at an indoor plant class in the fall and a full scheduled Master gardening class in 2024.
- February 20-25th is vacation week for the schools. We will be having crafts available all week - book displays, coloring pages, 4 laptops and 2 desktop computers to use. Free WiFi (for your own devices).
- February 20th is Love Your Pet Day! If you want, bring a picture of your pet(s). We would love to see them. Dawn and I will have some pictures of our pets to show you.
- Don't have a library card? – We'll sign you up, it's easy! Come in to see all the library has to offer.
- February 28th is our next Storytime with Dawn from 10-11am. Stories, craft and snack. Tell your friends.
- March 13th – hours 3-7pm. Come in and plant flower seeds and learn about butterflies. Check out a book. Gardening and butterfly books will be on display.
- Dawn and I will do two different webinars online. – February 15th is the planning for the "Kids Summer Program" and February 23rd is "Marketing form Small Libraries".

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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
- Mosaic project
- Webinar Training
- Finish 1203 Report
- Yates-Ontario Code Officer's Meeting

RE: Public Comments:

- Sue Button from Gilbert Street wanted to let everyone know that there is a Tik-Tok challenge out there where you go up to a house with the lights on, pound on the door and take off in a car. Sue wants neighbors to be aware and watch out for each other.

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 \$17,465.93. 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 Cemetery in the amount of \$92.48. 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 \$11,442.08. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman and seconded by Trustee Doug Rigby to authorize the payment of the Sewer bills in the amount of \$3,742.83. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Doug Rigby and seconded by Trustee Mark Fargo to authorize payment of the Library bills in the amount of \$608.87. The motion was unanimously carried.

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RE: Public Comments:

- None

A motion to adjourn the meeting 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 7:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannie Kesel, Clerk/Treasurer

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