

THE RUSHVILLE VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

September 11, 2023

DATE: 9/11/23

TIME: 7:00pm

PLACE: The Rushville Village Hall

PRESENT: Mayor David LeClair, Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman, Trustee Doug Rigby, Trustee Cheryl Hilton-Vadner, Trustee Karen Gorton, Clerk Jeannie Kesel, Code Officer Tim Pagel, DPW Art Rilands, Neal Curtis, Temporary Public Works Supervisor, Fire Chief Jim Adams and Reading Director Dodie Baker

Approximately 15 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. The Mayor asked for a moment of silence for the 9/11 victims and their families.

RE: 9/11:

The Mayor asked for a moment of silence for the 9/11 victims and their families

RE: Resolution 20-2023 Recognizing and Thanking Mark Fargo for his Service to the Village of Rushville:

The Mayor read the resolution recognizing Mark's commitment to the Village for the last 8 years. Mark said it has been a pleasure to serve on the Village Board. Mark said he has resided in the Village for 18 years. It is a lovely place to live, to grow and raise a family. Mark wished the Board well and wants to see the Village grow. He offered to the Mayor his assistance, if needed in the future.

RE: Approval of Minutes:

The Mayor asked the Trustees if they had any corrections to the board minutes from the August 14, 2023 meeting. Trustee Karen Gorton and Trustee Cheryl Hilton-Vadner had a couple of corrections. Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman made a motion to approve the August 14, 2023 minutes as corrected. Trustee Karen Gorton made a 2nd to the motion. The motion was unanimously carried

RE: Public Comments:

- None

RE: Resolution 21-2023 Authorizing Inter-Municipal Cooperation Agreement for the Provision of Water-Sewer Services Between the Village of Rushville and the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District:

- The Mayor said this is the exact same document written up under Mayor Sawers and the attorneys for the Village and the School except for Section 1.6 with a very tiny reduction in

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the water rates versus the Village picking up some of the maintenance costs. As the Mayor reported last month, Dr. Brown and the School Board requested splitting the maintenance costs of the water tower, equipment, transmission lines...etc. with the Village. The Mayor does not feel the Village should cover half the costs. The IMA being presented tonight represents a very small decrease from the Village rate of 1.5% which amounts to about \$12 per month on average. This gives Dr. Brown some positive news to report back to his Board while they continue to maintain the tower and all equipment. This IMA will be presented to the School Board at their meeting tonight.

- Somewhat unrelated by germane to the discussion is that in 2021 the Village Board reduced the rate at the bulk water station from \$10.50 to \$9.25 at the request of a dairy farmer and other incidental users. Since that time, he has gotten out of the dairy business. If the Board so desired, we could raise that rate to recover the \$12. I suggest approval of the IMA without any other increase. Perhaps we could revisit that in a few months. The district understands that the rate increase will be effective July 2023 with the first billing October 2023.
- There was some discussion during Skip Gorton's tenure as mayor that the Village might purchase the land that the water tower sets on. According to the State Education Department the water tower has to be owned privately by the School District.
- The Mayor asked for a motion for Resolution 21-2023. Trustee Karen Gorton made a motion for the approval of Resolution 21-2023 Authorizing Inter-Municipal Cooperation Agreement for the Provision of Water-Sewer Services Between the Village of Rushville and the Gorham-Middlesex Central School District. Trustee Doug Rigby made a 2nd.

There was a rollcall vote –

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|------------------------------|-----|
| Trustee Doug Rigby | Yes |
| Trustee Karen Gorton | Yes |
| Trustee Cheryl Hilton-Vadner | Yes |
| Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman | Yes |
| Mayor David LeClair | Yes |

- The motion was unanimously carried.

RE: Mayor's Report:

- Bicentennial Party – The event was well attended and we had very few problems. The Mayor wanted to thank everyone who pitched in to help our communities with this historical milestone. It was truly a team effort to get across the finish line. The Mayor has sent a general acknowledgement of thanks to the newspapers to be published, and he is in the process of sending letters to sponsors and participants. The Mayor estimated that 300 people were in attendance at the park event and many more on the parade route.
- FEMA has completed a major flood zone study that has been in the process for several years. As a result, our local law will need to be updated soon. The Village will be provided with a model law including new maps to adopt this year or early next. Tim Pagel attended the Yates County meeting and the Mayor attended the Ontario County meeting. According to Tim, Yates County will actually see a slight reduction in properties in the flood zone while

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Ontario County will see an increase of 15 properties. This could be new properties in the zone or just zone extensions. The impact will be felt by homeowners who will be notified by their mortgage companies of the need for flood insurance.

- Ontario and Yates counties are requesting updates to our Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP). Kick off meetings are being held now. The Village will be working towards report compliance. Art Rilands and Tim Pagel will be playing an integral role for Rushville during the update process.
- 4 South Main Street Restaurant – Finger Lake Plates - The Mayor spoke with Shane Fowler, proprietor/owner at the opening that was Friday, September 9th. Shane is very excited about being in Rushville. For now, the restaurant will be opened from 4-9 pm Friday through Sunday with expanded hours and menu choices on the horizon once fully staffed.

RE: Deputy Mayor's Report:

- No Report

RE: Watershed Commission Report – Trustee Mark Fargo:

- No Report

RE: Public Works Supervisor:

Streets:

- We are going to mill off the remaining old blacktop on Union Street, hopefully this Thursday and put new blacktop down next Monday and Tuesday. We are also going to do the same to the entrance to Douglas Drive. I am going to use Chips money for both projects.
- The hydrant on Water Street has been serviced. The valve is leaking. We are going to dig it up to see if it can be repaired. If it can't be repaired, then it has to be replaced. That would require shutting down the water at the whole south end of town. This includes the Valley Building and the Town of Middlesex. It can't be done during the school day because the school cannot be without water. We are hoping that the valve can be repaired.

Water:

- We've started testing for Blue Green Algae. No algae yet. We had a contractor in to clean out the settling tank. It has been a couple of years since it was last done.

Cemetery:

- The grass is growing fast again.

Sewer:

- Sludge is still a problem at the plant. Flows are going back up because of the recent rain. We've been working on a couple of the blowers. The blowers supply air to the liquid as it goes through the plant. The air is part of the treatment process.

Village Hall:

- We put up new siding on the North end of the building behind the Village Hall.

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RE: Fire Report:

- Chief Adams said they responded to 9 calls for service in the month of August. Five were in our district and two were in the Middlesex fire district, and two were in the Crystal Beach fire district.
- We conducted two training drills in August. The topics covered were extension ladders, use of our air compressor/breathing air bottle fill station and thermal imaging camera use.
- We participated in the county Bicentennial parade in Rushville.
- We had our annual cash raffle fundraiser on August 5th.
- We had an annual safety inspection completed on our utility pickup truck, Squad 2351
- We will have the annual pump tests done on our two pumping engines on September 26th.

RE: Reading Center Director: (Presented by Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman)

- We went live with our new barcoded library cards on September 1, 2023
- Thank you to Joey LeClair for heading up our new book club. The first one was on September 9th from 1-2:30pm at the library. The book is Run Rose Run by Dolly Parton & James Patterson. If you would like to join us there is still time. Next date is September 23rd and October 7th.
- We are collecting donation for the "Bridges to Brain Injury"/Wildlife Rockstars (from Farmington, NY): Used newspaper, gently used blankets and/or towels, new rolls of paper towels, bird perches and toys for cats and dogs. Bring them to the library now through the end of September.
- The party in the park and the parade on August 26th was very well attended and so much fun! Thank you to Christine Copper from Community Bank of Penn Yan. They donated 65 backpacks, pencil cases, and some shopping bags. We had 70 backpacks to give away. We served about 65 children. We have 5 new backpacks left.
- On October 21st and 28th a Poetry writing class for adults and teens will be held at the library. These are both Saturdays at 1:00 pm with Joey LeClair.
- The next Wee Wonder Storytime is Tuesday, September 26th from 10-11 am, stories, snacks and crafts. Storytime is held the last Tuesday of each month.

RE: Code Enforcement Officer:

- Issue Permits
- Inspection of projects in progress
- Mosaic project
- Letter to Rosato regarding vehicles parked on the street
- On-going inspections of Foster, Bay and Matcham projects
- Webinar training
- Hazard Mitigation information meeting
- FEMA Training for Flood Insurance assessment. We will probably need a new Local Law. FEMA wants 2 feet above the base flood elevation

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RE: Public Comments:

- Legislator Terry Button – Yates County approved the payment to NYSEG for the gas line from Preemption Road to the County Highway Building.
- There was another meeting on Yates County Sales tax sharing. Terry said that something may be coming.
- There was a committee meeting on the Broadband project. The goal is to serve everyone, but there are going to be people that will not be served. In Phase I there are about 680 people/properties that will not be served. They are about \$9M short. There is a lot of pushback with the state on right-a-ways, new poles that are being put in by NYSEG are deemed unacceptable. The county originally was planning on burying most of the lines, but now they will have to be above ground.
- Rick Ayers, from Soil and Water is retiring after 35 years of service.

RE: Clerk:

- NYSCLASS (which includes Cemetery, Reading Center, Village Savings and Checking) earned \$6,218.93 of interest for the month of August, YTD - \$38,202.58.

RE: Bills:

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman and seconded by Trustee Doug Rigby to authorize payment of the General bills in the amount of \$20,581.34. 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 \$842.99. 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 \$5,642.15. 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 Sewer bills in the amount of \$3,419.07. 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 Library bills in the amount of \$190.58. The motion was unanimously carried.

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A motion to adjourn the meeting and to go into Executive Session was made by Trustee Doug Rigby and seconded by Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman. The motion was unanimously passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.

A motion to open back up the Board Meeting was made by Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman and seconded by Trustee Karen Gorton at 8:02 pm. 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 8:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannie Kesel, Clerk/Treasurer

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