

THE RUSHVILLE VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

November 13, 2023

DATE: 11/13/23

TIME: 7:00pm

PLACE: The Rushville Village Hall

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

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 16, 2023 meeting. Trustee Cheryl Hilton-Vadner made a motion to approve the October 16, 2023 minutes as corrected. Trustee Doug Rigby made a 2nd to the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

RE: Public Comments:

- None

RE: Mayor's Report:

- The Mayor mentioned that Gary Oppelt passed away on November 12th. He asked for a moment of silence.
- Sewer Rents – Our current Sewer Rent Local Law charges one full unit and the .8 units for each additional dwelling unit in multiple swellings. The Board previously discussed making a change from .8 to 1 unit. The Sewer Committee, Trustee Doug Rigby and Trustee Cheryl Hilton-Vadner, met to review this change. Trustee Doug Rigby said the committee is recommending to move .8 to 1 whole unit. The committee feels the change should happen sometime next year. The committee also recommends that the burden of proof would be on the property owner to prove that an apartment does not exist. The Mayor suggested that the modified Sewer Law be effective March 1, 2024 with the first billing be July 1, 2024. There would need to be a public hearing and update the Local Sewer Law at the December or January meeting. The Mayor recommended that the Village continue with the annual \$10.00 per quarter increase each October through 2027/2028.
- Tax Sharing – Yates County – After much discussion amongst the Yates County Legislators, they unanimously authorized sales tax sharing in the 2024 budget in the amount of \$856,532. This amount is based on the approach that Nonie presented at the October Finance Committee, allocated to the towns and villages based on Method #s (Attached).

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You will see that the share for Rushville is \$29,900. This is great for the towns and villages of Yates County.

- Yates Planning Grant – I am working on the Yates County Recreation and Natural Resource Planning Grant application that will be submitted by the middle of December. The Village Park is somewhat unique and that the performance pavilion at this location would be a benefit to the surrounding area. There is currently no other type structure available for small performances, shows and pavilion rental. I expect some level of funding will be approved. I estimate the cost to be \$70K. The Lions Club has pledged \$5K and are seeking another \$5K grant from Lions National. The application is due by January 23, 2024.
- Library Addition – Should the Village begin the process through a committee of coming up with a plan and design for the addition. We have money for soft architectural costs. I think it would be prudent to have a plan ready to go aimed at obtaining a future STLS Grant. I have sent Brian Hildreth from STLS an email to get his feedback.
- Broadband – I have provided some information on the Yates County Broadband initiative. This future improvement will have a significant positive impact on Potter and Rushville.
- 13 South Main Street - - James Liebel – There is no new news to report other than to say that it will be on the Yates County Court in December.
- Lyons Bank – Lyons Bank representatives met with the listing broker. They want to be in Rushville, but need to carefully look at the environmental aspects of the property. I am hopeful.
- the new flood maps for Ontario County. As I reported previously, more village properties will be located in the Flood Zone when the new maps are adopted later this year. I have asked Jeannie to post this on the web-site. Village residents on the Ontario County side with mortgages will likely see a new requirement to obtain flood insurance in flood zone extensions. I expect Yates County soon to do the same.
- 13 South Main Street, James Liebel – You have an email that documents a recent email conversation I had with the attorney. I don't see a need at this time for an Executive Session, but rather wait until December court date and then reach out to the attorney. If you have any input that you want to share, please contact me.
- Rushville Bank – we received a call from Pyramid Brokerage in Syracuse about the permitted uses at this location. Apparently, they are getting ready to list it for sale. I reached out to Jeff Friend from Lyons Bank and gave him contact information for a preemptive discussion with the broker. I hope to provide an update when I hear back from Jeff.

RE: Deputy Mayor's Report:

- No Report

RE: Watershed Commission Report – Trustee Cheryl Hilton-Vadner:

- No Report

RE: Temporary Public Works Supervisor:

Streets:

- Leaf pickup continues once a week. We will continue probably through the end of the month, as needed, on Fridays. We will start hanging Christmas lights this week, as well as

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removing flags and changing banners out to the Christmastime in Rushville banners. We were supposed to get a valuation from the CAT representative for the old backhoe, but he did not show up. We have not heard anything from him since. Art has contacted Auctions International. We are having locks put on the dumpsters.

Sewer:

- We received the maintenance contracts for the generators. The cost has almost doubled from last year. Art said the price went from \$1500 to \$3400. He contacted another outfit that could do the maintenance, but they are more money. Art said the contract has expired and was looking for direction from the board. The Mayor agreed that the Village needed this maintenance contract.
- We have been having issues with our plug valve that we use to waste from the clarifier to the sludge pit. It needs a new plug, which is the "flapper" inside that directs the flow. A replacement plug is about \$900 with a 1-2 week lead time.
- The Town of Farmington is willing to let us try one of their flow meters as part of our search for the cause(s) of high flows during rain events. If it works for us, they would be willing to sell us one or more at a discounted rate. New ones range from \$6000-\$8000.
- I am signed up for sewer school at SUNY Morrisville at the end of February. It is a two-week program. Once completed, I'll be able to take the state ABC exam and a test with DEC, when available.

Cemetery:

- Cemetery is getting cleaned up and ready for winter. Leaves have been blown out and grass mowed for the final time. Artificial flowers will be cleaned up.
- A mattress and box spring were left in the cemetery. Neal said that they are being extra diligent to make sure that the gate is locked up.

Water:

- We have parts ordered to rebuild one of the D.E. pumps to get it to work more efficiently, as it has a tendency to get plugged. We are also having a problem with the precoat tank filling up more than it should. We believe there is a valve not fully opening or closing, so we're narrowing that down to replace or repair.
- I have completed the online schooling part of getting my water license. There are a couple more steps, including a lab test with DOH. Hopefully, within the next month or two I should have my water license.

RE: Fire Report:

- Chief Adams said they responded to 7 calls for service in the month of October.
- The hose company conducted one in-house training drill on propane and natural gas emergencies.
- We conducted our monthly apparatus and equipment checks
- The Chief took Engine 2311 to a truck facility in Phelps for new front tires and an alignment. He dropped off Rescue 11 at a heavy truck repair in Palmyra for a leaking power steering gearbox to have it replaced.
- On Halloween evening the Chief took Engine 2311 to North Main Street where he and his wife handed out candy to the children participating in the annual village trick-or-treat event.

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RE: Reading Center Director:

- Pumpkin Carving: 11 pumpkins were judged (4 adults, 3 teens and 4 children). We also had 4 adult carvers that did not want to be judged. Pumpkins were displayed outside. Everyone enjoyed viewing them Halloween night. We had approximately 250 children come through the library. Always a fund night! Ten volunteers worked during Trick or Treat hours. Six volunteers prepped ahead of the event. Thank you all!
- Christmastime in Rushville – December 1st. There will be a coloring contest to start this week. Shane from Finger Lakes Plates is hosting the contest this year. Prizes will be given. Go inside the restaurant to see the finished coloring pages on display.
- The next Wee Wonder Storytime is Tuesday, November 28th from 10-11 AM. Stories, Snacks & Craft. Storytime is held the last Tuesday of each month.
- Dawn & I took some item maintenance training in Work Flows from STLS. We will have more training in the future.

RE: Code Enforcement Officer:

- Issue Permits
- Inspection of projects in progress
- Mosaic project
- On-going inspections of Foster and Matcham projects
- Submit Hazard Mitigation worksheets
- 4 Bryant Square re-hab and then sold

RE: Public Comments:

- None

RE: Clerk:

- NYSCLASS earned \$7,084.78 of interest for the month of October, YTD - \$51,746.33. NYCLASS is paying 5.28% on deposits.

RE: Bills:

A motion was made by Trustee Cheryl Hilton-Vadner and seconded by Trustee Karen Gorton to authorize payment of the General bills in the amount of \$21,301.27. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Karen Gorton and seconded by Trustee Doug Rigby to authorize payment of the Cemetery bills in the amount of \$282.88. 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 \$2,580.52. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Cheryl Hilton-Vadner and seconded by Trustee Doug Rigby to authorize the payment of the Sewer bills in the amount of \$2,600.04. The motion was unanimously carried.

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A motion was made by Trustee Doug Rigby and seconded by Trustee Cheryl Hilton-Vadner to authorize payment of the Library bills in the amount of \$341.39. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Trustee Karen Gorton and seconded by Trustee Doug Rigby. The motion was unanimously passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannie Kesel, Clerk/Treasurer