

**Village of Afton**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**Jack D. Bolster Community Center, Afton, NY**  
**August 14, 2017**

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held August 14, 2017 at 7:00 pm in the Susquehanna Room, 105 Main Street, Afton, NY

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM

**Present:** Mayor Muller, Trustee Harvey, Trustee Simonds, Trustee Matthews and Trustee Zablocki.

**Absent:** DPW Superintendent Joshua Sweeney

**Visitors:** DeAnna Hyché & April Leggett

- A motion was made by Trustee Simonds authorizing Clerk/Treasurer to pay the following audited vouchers, Seconded by Trustee Harvey. All in favor, motion passed.  
**General Fund Vouchers # 29 - 61, Totaling \$7,178.32.**  
**Water Fund Vouchers # 9 – 15, Totaling \$1,680.78.**
- Motion to accept previous minutes with no additions or corrections was made by Trustee Matthews, seconded by Trustee Harvey. All in favor, motion passed.

**Monthly Report:**

- DPW/ Water: No representative.
- Police Department: Report distributed.
- Code Enforcement: No representative. Per Board discussion a formal letter will be sent to Mr. Metzger requesting a monthly written report.
- Planning Board: The Board members had a request from Kathy Merrill who owns a single family home located at 121 E. Main St. Ms. Merrill had submitted all necessary paperwork to change this home from a single family to 2 family home. This request has been approved by the Village Planning Board. The board is also continually working on the business zoning. It's been a slow moving process, due to the many steps that are needed to complete this process.
- Finance/Insurance: Up to date.
- Christmas Parade Committee: Remains the same.
- Grant Committee: The Mayor informed the Village Board of Trustees that GeoEco Design has tentative plans for finishing the Afton Strategic Plan by the end of this year. The advisory committee will be holding a meeting on Tuesday, August 29, 2017 at 7 pm. At the Jack D. Bolster Community Center.
- Parks Committee: The Mayor informed the Village Board of Trustees that the committee held a community garage sale on August 5<sup>th</sup>. This was a very successful event all funds raised will go towards our goal of new playground equipment.
- Historian Report: Report distributed.

### **Old Business:**

- Weiss Cleanup – Josh will be contacting them. The Mayor had stated that she will speak to Josh about this.
- Discuss the Insurance quotes on the Well House Contents. – The Mayor informed the Village Board of Trustees that while at a County Meeting today for shared services, she had an opportunity to speak with Mr. Matt Beckwith from Emergency Management Office. Mr. Beckwith stated that if the Village were to have another flood on our Well House property, that unless we have insurance, FEMA will not help with the cost and replacement of equipment.
- Stump Grinder Prices - The Mayor had stated that she will speak to Josh about this.

### **New Business:**

- Visitor DeAnna Hyché from The Broadway Group came to speak to the Village Board about the zoning regulations on a property located at 307 Main Street. The Mayor informed Ms. Hyché that she needed to go through the proper channels, she must speak with the Planning Board.
- Visitor April Leggett asked the Village Board of Trustees if anyone owned the 2 yellow houses located on South Main St. April stated that these homes appear to be falling down and a danger to the public. Ms. Leggett also stated that these properties seem to never be mowed.
- Visitor April Leggett asked the Village Board of Trustees if they are aware what the process might be in order to remove abandon buildings.
- Visitor April Leggett asked the Village of Board of Trustees if they are aware that other communities use their local Fire Department to help take down old abandon houses for training purposes. The Mayor informed Ms. Leggett that they no longer do this.
- The Mayor informed the Village Board of Trustees that she and Trustee Harvey interviewed a gentleman by the name of David Bird for the position of DPW Superintendent. Mr. Bird comes with much experience. He has been offered the job at the current salary listed. He had the required licenses. They have since expired, the village will be paying for him to renew those that are required.
- A motion was made by Trustee Simonds to hire Mr. David Bird for the position of DPW Superintendent with a start date of September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017. Seconded by Trustee Zablocki, All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion was made by Trustee Simonds to obtain Insurance on the well house not exceed a \$3000.00 deductible. Seconded by Trustee Matthews, All in favor, motion passed.
- The Mayor informed the Village of Board of Trustees that she has met with an engineer about obtaining a brown stone grant for the property that the Village purchased through the County Tax Sale. She stated that maybe he'll be able to help obtain a block grant to help remove some of these older abandon homes within the Village.

- The Mayor informed the Village Board of Trustees that the Water Tank has had an inspection. We are still waiting on the report.
- The Mayor distributed the Village of Afton's harassment policy to the Board of Trustees for review.
- The Mayor informed the Village Board of Trustees of the new Family Leave Act Law.
- The Village Board of Trustees discussed the review of the current charges billed out to area residents who do not comply with the lawn care laws.
- Trustee Matthews asked if the tree that came down in the last storm behind the Episcopal Church has been determined whose responsibility it is to have the tree removed.
- Trustee Simonds stated that she has been approached by area residents about the possibility of painting arrows in the municipal parking lot behind the businesses on Main Street. There are many who do not enter or leave this parking lot in the direction which is intended. The Mayor stated that even though the Village maintains this parking lot, it is still owned by all the area businesses. Permission must be granted by every business owner for this to be done. The Mayor stated that she'd contact Sandy Reiling the Bank Manager to see if she could help determine the parking lot boundaries. The Mayor also stated that if the parking lot is considered an actual street, then the Chipps program should help cover the cost of paving the parking lot.
- A motion was made by Trustee Harvey and Seconded by Trustee Simonds to go into executive session. For personnel reasons. All in favor, motion passed. 7:59 pm.
- A motion was made by Trustee Matthews and Seconded by Trustee Zablocki to close the executive session. All in favor, motion passed. 8:15 pm
- A motion was made by Trustee Simonds to adjourn our regular meeting at 8:17 pm and Seconded by Trustee Zablocki. All in favor, motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted  
 Ann Palmatier  
 Clerk/Treasurer