

Village of Afton
Board of Trustees Meeting
Jack D. Bolster Community Center, Afton, NY
August 8, 2022

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held August 8, 2022 in the Susquehanna Room, 105 Main Street, Afton, NY

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm, by Mayor Nickerson.

Present: Mayor Nickerson, Trustee Lawrence, Trustee Humphrey, Trustee Komorowski, Trustee Winans, Clerk/Treasurer Palmatier, DPW Supervisor DeBetta and Village Code Enforcement Officer Jeffrey Butler.

Visitors: Donald Ouimet and Brendon Becker, Lamont Engineer.

- A motion made by Trustee Lawrence authorizing Clerk/Treasurer to pay the audited vouchers from the July 11, 2022 meeting. Seconded by Trustee Winans. All in favor, motion passed.
General Fund Vouchers # 39 - 62, Totaling \$38,096.31.
Water Fund Vouchers # 13 – 24, Totaling \$60,253.61.

- A motion made by Trustee Lawrence authorizing Clerk/Treasurer to pay the following audited vouchers. Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in favor, motion passed.
General Fund Vouchers # 63 - 96, Totaling \$92,110.72.
Water Fund Vouchers # 25 – 38, Totaling \$100,740.22.

- Motion to accept previous minutes with no additions or correction, made by Trustee Humphrey. Seconded by Trustee Lawrence. All in favor, motion passed.

Monthly Report:

- **DPW/ Water:** Written report were distributed for July & August 2022. A verbal report given by DPW Supervisor Bailey DeBetta. Supervisor DeBetta expressed to the Village Board of Trustees that he would like for DPW Labor, Donald Lockwood Jr. to be recognized by the Village Officials as Acting Deputy Supervisor when he is unavailable. Supervisor DeBetta will be on vacation next week, if anyone has any questions or concerns they can contact Mr. Lockwood directly. The Department will be renting a grade all to fix some of the roadways through the village. The new slide was installed at Leggett Park. DPW Supervisor stated that rather than place pea stone around the slide, they received donated wood chips from Wagner Lumber.

- **Police Department.** Report distributed. Read allowed by Mayor Nickerson.

- **Code Enforcement:** Report distributed. Read aloud by Village Code Enforcement Officer Jeffrey Butler. Code Enforcement Officer Butler asked the Village Board of Trustees if they have thought about placing solar speed zone signs within the village limit. This discussion has been talked about previously. Brendon Becker, from Lamont Engineer

expressed that perhaps they could be sought after under the Safe Routes to School Grant Funding.

- Planning Board: Trustee Humphrey informed the Village Board of Trustees that there was no Planning Board Meeting. He did not make the meeting and Chairman Matthews is on vacation.
- Finance/Insurance: All current policies have been paid at this time.
- Christmas Parade Committee: Remains the same, nothing new.
- Parks Committee: The Parks Committee will be selling food items during the Arts & Crafts Festival, held on August 20th & 21st.
- Historian Report: No report.
- Dog Control Officer: - Report distributed.
- Afton Central School – No representative.

Old Business:

- Water Rate Discussions – Mayor Nickerson handed the Village Board of Trustees a list of new water rate categories with new rates for discussion. There were discussions among the Village Board of Trustee on the grouping categories for billing purposes. This discussion was tabled until next month.
- Trustee Lawrence asked Mayor Nickerson if she had replied to the letter that the village received from New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Mayor Nickerson stated that she is waiting on County Code Enforcement Officer, Steve Fox to get the form from County that is required to authorize the Chenango County Division of Code Enforcement to serve as the Village's Local Floodplain Administrator. Trustee Lawrence stated that we can still make the necessary motion.
- A motion made by Trustee Humphrey to enter into an Intermunicipal Floodplain Management Agreement with Chenango County, authorizing the Chenango County Division of Code Enforcement to serve as the Village's Local Floodplain Administrator. Seconded by Trustee Winans. All in favor, motion passed.

New Business:

- Brendon Becker from Lamont Engineer gave the Village Board of Trustees an update on the water tank installation progress. He stated that the building permit issue was handled as soon as he was made aware. Mr. Becker stated that when there is a local Code Officer for a municipality that the responsibility is usually that persons. Mr. Becker said that there were two issues with the tank, one being that there was sand under that tank. It worked out, once the sand was tested it was determined that it could be disposed of on sight. The second being that the tank was sitting on a concrete footing slab. It was able to

be cut down, and tested to run gravel to use for the backfilling. The contract is still within the budget, given the setbacks.

- A motion made by Trustee Lawrence allowing Mayor Nickerson to submit a letter of intent on the behalf of the Village of Afton to Restore New York Grant Application. This program encourages community development and neighborhood growth through the elimination and redevelopment of blighted structures. Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee Komorowski allowing Mayor Nickerson to submit a letter of intent on the behalf of the Village of Afton to New York Forward Grant Application. These working capital loans are timed to support businesses and organizations as they proceed to reopen and have upfront expenses to comply with guidelines (e.g., inventory, marketing, refitting for new social distancing guidelines) under the New York Forward Plan. Seconded by Trustee Lawrence. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee Humphrey to accept the audit of the Clerk/ Treasurers fiscal year 2021/2022. Seconded by Trustee Komorowski. All in favor motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee Humphrey to move \$2,915.40, from Capital Reserves Water Improvement Savings Fund for payment of Invoice # 1 2 - to Lamont Engineers for engineering services as follows:
(8320.20 – Water Contractual – for \$2,915.40). Seconded by Trustee Lawrence. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee Winans to move \$84,622.67, from Capital Reserves Water Improvement Savings Fund for payment of Invoice # 4 - to DN Tanks of New York, LLC for the Capital Reserves Water Storage Tank replacement, to the following:
(9950.90 – Transfer to Capital Projects Funds – for \$84,622.67). Seconded by Trustee Lawrence. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee Humphrey to move \$1,324.21 in the general budget from General Support Contractual (A1989.40) to Unallocated Insurance (1910.40), for payment of increased insurance policies. Seconded by Trustee Winans. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee Humphrey to move \$610.07 in the water budget from Contingency (1990.40) to Unallocated Insurance (1910.40), for payment of increased insurance policies. Seconded by Trustee Komorowski. All in favor, motion passed.
- Brendon Becker from Lamont Engineer informed the Village Board of Trustees that the State Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) will be reopening the Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WIIA) grants in September. This grant is to support upgrades and improvements to water infrastructure in municipalities. As well as to safeguarding water quality. Mr. Becker stated that if the Village is still interested in applying, that there would need to be a special meeting before September to update the project costs and a possible bonding resolution required.
- A motion made by Trustee Lawrence to hold a special board meeting on Tuesday , August 30, 2022 at 6:30 pm at the Jack D. Bolster Community Center, 105 Main Street. Seconded by Trustee Winans. All in favor, motion passed.

Recognition of Visitors:

- The Village received a thank you letter from The Afton Glenwood Cemetery Association, Inc., for the Village of Afton donation towards the Glenwood Cemetery.
- The Village of Afton received a Thank you Note from Linda Matthews. Mrs. Matthews wanted to thank the DPW Crew for the resurfacing of the roadway on Caswell Street.
- A motion made by Trustee Humphrey to adjourn our regular meeting at 8:00 pm. Seconded by Trustee Winans. All in favor, motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted

Ann Palmatier
Clerk / Treasurer