

**Village of Afton  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
Jack D. Bolster Community Center, Afton, NY  
December 9, 2024**

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held December 9, 2024, in the Susquehanna Room, 105 Main Street, Afton, NY.

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

**Present:** Mayor Dedman, Trustee D. Lawrence, Trustee Humphrey, Trustee T. Lawrence, Trustee L. Matthews, Clerk/Treasurer Palmatier and Officer in Charge Frank Ventura.

**Absent:** DPW Supervisor DeBetta and Code Enforcement Officer Butler.

**Visitors:** Donald Ouimet, April Leggett, Dale Dewey and Darren Schultes.

- A motion made by Trustee Humphrey authorizing Clerk/Treasurer to pay the following audited vouchers. Seconded by Trustee D. Lawrence. All in favor motion passed.

**General Fund Voucher's # 147 - 170, totaling \$43,591.48.**

**Water Fund Voucher's # 60 – 69, totaling \$8,213.28.**

**Christmas Fund Voucher's # 1- 4, totaling \$1,061.67**

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

**Monthly Report:**

- DPW/ Water: Report distributed.
- Police Department. Report distributed, read aloud by Officer in Charge Ventura.
- Code Enforcement: Report distributed.
- Planning Board: Report distributed for December 2, 2024. Planning Board Chair, April Leggett asked the Village Board of Trustees if she could reach out to the Village Attorney for examples of different zoning and code laws to begin updating the village's code book. There were discussions about the cost on the village to ask the attorney for this information. The board recommended that she reach out to other municipalities for review of their zoning and codes. Planning Board Chair, April Leggett expressed to the Village Board of Trustees that she had to cancel the last Planning Board Meeting as only herself and one other member showed up. She asked the Village Board of Trustees if she could come up with a formal policy for attendance requirements for the Planning Board Members. The village board informed Ms. Leggett that she is the chair of the board, therefore it is her discretion. There was discussion among the board about the appointment of members to the Planning Board that live outside of the village limits. Ms. Leggett informed the Village Board of Trustees that she along with Mr. Dale Dewey and the Town Supervisor John Lawrence did a virtual walk through of the town medical building. They have made

contact with UHS in Walton as well as the UHS Wilson Hospital for possible placement of medical facility within the community. They both seem interested and will be reviewing the location. Ms. Leggett recommended to the Village Board of Trustees that Mr. Dale Dewey be appointed to the Planning Board. She feels as though he would be a great asset to the community.

- Finance/Insurance: Up to date.
- Christmas Parade Committee: Darren Schultes stated that it was a little chilly, but that everything went well for the Christmas Parade. They had a record crowd for the festivities. They had a total of 30 floats that was about 5 less than last year. However they did have a few that had signed up but did not show. There were quite a few horses in the parade, which were a big hit. The Christmas Parade banner will be taking down this week. Mr. Schultes said that they will have one more meeting after the holidays, then their next meeting to begin planning for next year will be held over the summer. There were many discussions of the events that were held over the course of the day, especially the fireworks. All Village Board Members Thanked Mr. Schultes for his hard work and dedication.
- 4 Towns Forward: No new information.
- Historian Report: Report distributed.
- Dog Control Officer: - Report distributed.
- Afton Central School – No representative.

#### **Old Business:**

- Progress on the 2 Yellow Houses. – Mayor Dedman stated that the paperwork for the party's interested in with the purchase of these properties is in the hands of Attorney VanWhy. There is an issue of asbestos that has been found, but that they are still willing to move forward.
- Water Meter Project Progress. - Mayor Dedman stated that the paperwork has been signed and returned to Mr. Becker to start the bidding process.
- Email regarding Hometown Hero's Banners. Trustee L. Matthews has been in contact with Mr. Joseph Schnorr from the VFW. He will be bringing the discussion to the VFW Members at their next meeting.

#### **New Business:**

- A motion made by Trustee Humphrey to move \$4,080.36, from Capital Reserves Water Improvement Savings Fund for payment of Invoice # 23 - to Lamont Engineers for engineering services as follows: (F8397.20 - Contractual -Lamont Engineers – for \$4,080.36). Seconded by Trustee D. Lawrence. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee Humphrey to move \$4.01 in general budget from General Support Contractual (A1989.40) to Bond Interest (A9720.70), for budget overages, due to a banking error in the payment due date for this particular payment. Seconded by Trustee L. Matthews. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee Humphrey to close the office on January 20<sup>th</sup> through 23<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Seconded by Trustee T. Lawrence. All in favor, motion passed.

- Trustee T. Lawrence informed the Village Board of Trustees that he and DPW Supervisor DeBetta attended a kickoff meeting with the New York Power Authority regarding the public electric car charging station. They are running into a concern involving a third-party property boundaries, as this is not their intent. They are trying to stay within the village right-of-way. The property survey has been completed, it shows a car length lane along the guiderails that is village owned.
- A motion was made by Trustee Humphrey to allow for the appointment of Planning Board Members who reside outside the village limits. Seconded by Trustee T. Lawrence. All in favor, motion passed.

**Recognition of Visitors:**

- A motion made by Trustee D. Lawrence to enter into an executive session at 8:03 pm to discuss the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation. Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in Favor, motion passed. Officer in Charge Ventura was asked to stay for the executive session.
- Trustee D. Lawrence asked Clerk/Treasurer Palmatier and Officer in Charge Frank Ventura to leave the room to allow for the Village Board of Trustees to talk privately.
- At 8:22 pm Clerk/Treasurer Palmatier and Officer in Charge Frank Ventura returned to executive session.
- A motion made by Trustee D. Lawrence to exit executive session at 9:21 pm. Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee D. Lawrence to adjourn our regular meeting at 9:22 pm. Seconded by Trustee L. Matthews. All in favor, motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Palmatier,  
Clerk / Treasurer