

**Village of Afton  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
Jack D. Bolster Community Center, Afton, NY  
January 11, 2020**

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held January 11, 2020 in the Susquehanna Room, 105 Main Street, Afton, NY

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

Mayor Nickerson asked that all visitors kindly hold all comments during the meeting until we reach the point in our agenda for public recognition.

**Present:** Mayor Nickerson, Trustee Muller, Trustee Lawrence, Trustee Simonds, Trustee Humphrey, Clerk/Treasurer Palmetier and DPW Supervisor Bailey DeBetta

**Visitors:** Maryann Palmetier, Timothy McNamara, April Leggett, Kathy Ryan and Joyce Humphrey.

- A motion was made by Trustee Lawrence authorizing Clerk/Treasurer to pay the Following, audited vouchers, from the December 14, 2020 Board Meeting. Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in favor, motion passed.  
**General Fund Vouchers** # 212 - 245, Totaling \$62,684.18.  
**Water Fund Vouchers** # 58 – 68, Totaling \$2,554.17.
- A motion was 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** # 246 - 269, Totaling \$9,594.26.  
**Water Fund Vouchers** # 69 – 76, Totaling \$1,788.72.
- Motion to accept previous minutes with no additions or correction, made by Trustee Simonds. Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in favor, motion passed.

**Monthly Report:**

- **DPW/ Water:** DPW Supervisor Bailey DeBetta said that the Department has been busy for the past two weeks with the snow removal from the roadways, parking lots and sidewalks. They removed piles of snow from the Main Street area to help with the visibility for incoming traffic in the village limits. The crew helped the Town of Afton load millings for the roadways that were washed-out, due to the heavy rains. A new chlorine injector was installed at the well house. They continue to pick-up the Christmas trees and stands. DPW Supervisor Bailey DeBetta met with Trustee Humphrey and Brendon Becker of Lamont Engineer to discuss the water tank project. Mr. DeBetta informed the Village Board of Trustees that the trucks that were sold at auction, have been picked up by those who purchased them, we are currently waiting to receive payment from the auction house. Mayor Nickerson asked DPW Supervisor Bailey DeBetta if he has started a tool inventory, Mr. DeBetta stated that he has been working on it.

- Police Department. No report distributed.
- Code Enforcement: Report distributed, read aloud by Mayor Nickerson.
- Planning Board: Trustee Humphrey informed the Village Board of Trustees that the Planning Board held a meeting. Village Code Enforcement, Jeff Butler shared with the Planning Board his report. Trustee Humphrey stated that there are sections of the Zoning Codes that the Planning Board need to review. The Planning Board was in agreement about looking at the different types of Solar Energy Guidelines. Planning Board Member Girard Matthews attended a webinar on this topic; he will make copies to distribute to the other Planning Board Members. Mr. Matthews shared the Executive Order Guidelines that were, put forth due to Covid-19. Planning Board Member April Leggett will be researching alternative energy guidelines on the Local, County and State Levels.
- Finance/Insurance: Remains the same.
- Christmas Parade Committee: Trustee Simonds stated no new information, remains the same.
- Parks Committee: Remains the same
- Historian Report: Report distributed. Mayor Nickerson read aloud to those in attendance. Mayor Nickerson stated that this report along with the others would be placed on the Village Web- page for public viewing.
- Dog Control Officer: - No reports distributed
- Afton Central School – Afton Central School Superintendent Timothy McNamara commended DPW Supervisor Bailey DeBetta on the great job he and the DPW Crew did on the snowstorm clean up. Mr. McNamara stated to the Village Board of Trustees that the new streetlights look nice. Mr. McNamara stated that with the current Holidays the School has had some teachers and students who have tested positive for Covid- 19. Just today, they were informed that a staff member has tested positive. The School has been in touch with the County Health Department to start the contact tracing process. Due to privacy practices, they cannot divulge those who may have been effected. Mr. McNamara said that notification was received today that group 1B which includes school districts will begin the vaccination process. The school has already had a number of staff who have received their first dose shot.

## **Old Business:**

- NYS Emergency Pandemic Plan - Mayor Nickerson stated that the current emergency plan for the Village has been located. She stated other than changing some names, dates and adding the pandemic information, we should be able to continue with the current plan. Mayor Nickerson stated that the Village Board of Trustees needs to have an open meeting to discuss the necessary changes, as this new plan must be adopted by March. Mayor Nickerson stated that she would come up with a public meeting date and have the Clerk post the information.

- Chicken Discussions – Tabled from last month. The paperwork was distributed to all Board Members for review before Board Meeting. Mayor Nickerson asked the Village Board of Trustees if everyone had the opportunity to review the paperwork.
- A motion made by Trustee Humphrey to send the required paperwork to the Village Attorney and hold a public hearing about allowing residents to have chickens at their properties. Seconded by Trustee Lawrence. All in favor, motion passed.

### **New Business:**

- Trustee Lawrence expressed to DPW Supervisor Bailey DeBetta that she has heard good comments on the road clean up during the storm.
- Trustee Humphrey informed the Village Board of Trustees that he and DPW Supervisor Bailey DeBetta met with Brendon Becker of Lamont Engineer to discuss the water tank project. Trustee Humphrey discussed the pros and cons of a concrete tank versus a steel tank. A concrete tank would last much longer with less maintenance, but costs slightly more. Mr. Becker intends on placing bids for both to try to get the best possible pricing for the Village of Afton.
- A motion made by Trustee Simonds to move a total of \$255.24 from (1990.40 – Contingency Fund) in our Water Budget for the following Budget Appropriations: (1910.40 – Unallocated Insurance Water – for \$255.24). Seconded by Trustee Lawrence. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee Simonds to move a total of \$10,355.00 from (9550.20 – Equipment Fund Reserve) in our General Budget for the following Budget Appropriations:  
(5110.20 – Street Maintenance Equipment/Vehicle Repair & Maintenance – for \$5,100.00).  
(1640.44 – Garage Oxygen/Tools – for \$2,000.00).  
(9010.80 – State Retirement – for \$3,255.00).  
Seconded by Trustee Lawrence. All in favor, motion passed.

### **Recognition of Visitors:**

- Planning Board Member, April Leggett expressed that she would be looking into different types of alternative energy. As there are many forms, such as solar, wind and water.
- Mayor Nickerson asked visitor Kathy Ryan if she was still interested in helping the Village obtain the needed income surveys for the R-Cap Solutions for grant funding for the water tank project. As Mr. Butler has stated that he is unable to get any results. Mrs. Ryan stated that she is still willing to help, but suggested that perhaps information be placed on a Facebook page or the Village Web Page. Trustee Humphrey stated that his Aunt, Joyce Humphrey and his wife, Jodi Humphrey are willing to help with trying to obtain this information.
- Visitor Joyce Humphrey stated that she did not quite understand the language of the grant funding process, but after speaking with Mr. Becker, she now realizes that this is information needed to help our community bring more money into our Village.

- Trustee Humphrey stated that Mr. Brendon Becker from Lamont Engineers suggested that Afton Edge Apartments is an income eligible establishment; therefore, we should be able to just obtain the average income eligibility to become a resident. This may help in obtaining the percentage of income survey returns needed.
- Mayor Nickerson said that there is another meeting planned here at the community center on Monday, February 1, 2021 at 1:00 pm. To discuss the possible design transformations for the Main Street District, anyone is welcome to attend.
- A motion made by Trustee Lawrence to adjourn our regular meeting at 7:50 pm. Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in favor, motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted

Ann Palmatier  
Clerk / Treasurer