

Village of Afton
Board of Trustees Meeting
Jack D. Bolster Community Center, Afton, NY
June 11, 2018

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held June 11, 2018 at 7:00 pm in the Susquehanna Room, 105 Main Street, Afton, NY

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM

Present: Mayor Burnett, Trustee Harvey, Trustee Simonds Trustee Zablocki, Trustee Matthews, Officer in Charge Q. Wright and Second Officer R. Swislosky

Visitors: Wendy Hosier, Melissa Matthews, Ronda Barriger, Patrick Dedman. Daniel Fugnani, Sue Weibel, Julie Grover, Pamela Wylubski, Jeffrey & Shirley Butler, Joan Pallateri, Thomas O'Donnell, Richard Cuthbertson, Alysens Parsons, Marge Petrie, April Leggett, John & Judy Hinman,, Jerry Harris and Kenneth Vail.

- A motion was made by Trustee Matthews authorizing Clerk/Treasurer to pay the following audited vouchers, Seconded by Trustee Zablocki. All in favor, motion passed.
General Fund Vouchers # 1 - 23, Totaling \$19,539.16.
Water Fund Vouchers # 1 – 10, Totaling \$5,816.84.
- Motion to accept previous minutes with no additions or corrections was made by Trustee Simonds, seconded by Trustee Zablocki . All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion was made by Trustee Simonds to correct General Fund Abstract Voucher – Remove Voucher # 297 – Check # 20166 in the amount of \$450.00 paid to Walsh & Walsh, LLP from general fund pay out leaving total for General fund at \$69,652.29. Seconded by Trustee Zablocki. All in favor motion passed.

Monthly Report:

- DPW/ Water: No Report.
- Police Department. Reports for May and June were distributed.
- Code Enforcement: No Report.
- Planning Board: Trustee Matthews informed the Village Board of Trustees that the Planning Board held discussions with a property owner on the East Side, whom already has been approved for the changes they plan to make. Also the Planning Board will be working on updating the New Census over the summer, this will consist of the gathering of Village addresses, this needs to be completed by September. Trustee Simonds asked Trustee Matthews about the progress on the Dollar General. Trustee Matthews stated that they are continuing to work on site.
- Finance/Insurance: Up to date.
- Christmas Parade Committee: Remains the same.
- Grant Committee: Working on the closing of the Strategic Plan with both ESD and DOS.
- Parks Committee: Trustee Simonds informed the Village Board of Trustees that the Committee will be holding a garage and vender's sale at the New Town Hall on Saturday, August 4th, 2018.
- Historian Report: Report distributed.

- Dog Control Officer: - No Report.

Old Business:

- Weiss Cleanup – Remains the same.
- Sidewalk- Strong- per Mr. Strong he grew tired of waiting on DPW, he has repaired the sidewalk himself.
- Trespassing posting – Vallonia Springs property posted according to the law – This needs to be done by next month's meeting.
- Credit Card – Has been withdrawn – Do to Sally Muller no longer Mayor. – The Village Board has decided to Table for the time being.
- Hydrant Flushing - Time Plan – This will be done once school releases for the summer.
- Discussions of Street Lights – Meeting was held with Mayor Burnett, Trustees Matthews and Mr. Grangers. After looking at the energy audit of the Village office, it was used to give a rough estimate of how is spent on our street lights. Half of what the Village pays out to NYSEG goes towards servicing. Mr. Granger thinks that he can obtain grant funding up to 50% for this project. He's willing to enter into a service agreement of a 5 year contract for the maintenance of the street lights with the Village. Mr. Granger also thinks that he may be able to enlist the help of Senator Fred Akshar for granting assistance.

New Business:

- Visitor Melissa Matthews presented the Village Board of Trustees with a letter of request for the waiver of fees for the 2nd Annual Sidewalk Day. Being held on Saturday, August 25th, 2018 from 9 am to 3 pm. sponsored by the Greater Area Chamber of Commerce. A motion was made by Trustee Matthews to waive the vending permit fees. Seconded by Trustee Harvey. All in favor, motion passed.
- Visitor Melissa Matthews asked the Village Board of Trustees to consider the rewriting of requirements of the license fees. Trustee Matthews better explained the licensing fee process to Ms. Matthews.
- Visitor Ronda Barriger presented a letter of request from the Afton Driving Park and Agricultural Association. They are requesting a waiver of fees for various events to be held from June 11, 2018 thru July 31, 2018 at the Afton Fair Grounds. A motion was made by Trustee Simonds and Seconded by Trustee Harvey. All in favor, motion passed.
- Visitor Ronda Barriger from the Afton Driving Park and Agricultural Association requested an extension of 1 hour curfew for the Friday night Races and the Tractor Pull & Truck Pull. These events will take place on July 7 & 8, 2018 at the Afton Fair. A motion was made by Trustee Matthews to extend the curfew, and Seconded by Trustee Simonds. All in favor, motion passed.
- Visitor Ronda Barriger asked the Village Board of Trustees who is responsible for paying police coverage for the fair. Officer in Charge Q. Wright addressed her question. He stated

that the Fair Board will be invoiced by the hourly pay rate of the officer who is on duty, hours that officers will be on call will be from 5pm to 11pm.

- Visitor Ronda Barriger asked the Village Board of Trustees if the Fair Board needed to use the parking across from the fairgrounds would this be availed. No Motion was made, but Mrs. Barriger was giving permission if needed.
- Visitor Richard Cuthbertson addressed the Village Board of Trustees with his concerns of the very large pot holes as you turn onto High Street.
- Discussions of the much needed road repairs were brought forth.
- Visitor Jerry Harris stated that he has asked the DPW workers about the road repair agenda. He said that currently there is no plans set forth. They are very busy with their duties, they have not received any direction from the Mayor.
- Visitor Pamela Wylubski stated that the Village is responsible for roadways from the Village line to the Town line. The County then is responsible for the remaining road way.
- Visitor Jerry Harris asked if the East Main Street was part of the Chipps program.
- Visitor Jerry Harris asked the Village Board of Trustees if he could reach out to the County on the Villages behalf to see if they are willing help with the filling in of the pot holes on the Village road ways. Mr. Harris was giving permission.
- Visitor Kenneth Vail expressed that East Main Street is in need of repair. He stated that the road way is completely gone. That Winding Way is nothing but pot holes.
- Visitor Jerry Harris expressed to the Village Board of Trustees that the DPW workers are in need of guidance. Mr. Harris feels as though 2 Trustees should be appointed as an interim Superintendent at this time. Trustee Matthews and Zablocki will help oversee the department until a replacement is hired.
- Visitor Jerry Harris stated that we need to have a good working relationship with the Town of Afton. He has spoken with the Town, they are willing to help out with the ditching. Also that there is a tree that needs to come down across from the Old Jericho Farm.
- Visitor Pamela Wylubski stated that the Village and Town already have a shared service agreement.
- Visitor Jerry Harris stated that someone from the Village Board should attend a Town Board Meeting. Mr. Harris asked Trustees Zablocki to attend the Town Board Meeting with him, he'll pick him up.
- Visitor Richard Cuthbertson urged the Village Board of Trustees to take a drive up to High Street. He stated that there is large pile of broken up road debris laying in the roadway.
- Visitor Jerry Harris brought up the discussion of the mowing across from the Fairgrounds. He feels as though this is complete waste of time and wear and tear on the machinery. Less time mowing leaves more time for other pressing things.

- Visitor Pamela Wylubski congratulated Mayor Burnett on her position. Mrs. Wylubski expressed her opinion that the Village has been making bad choices and decisions for years. She feels as though all members of the Board should take responsibility to share in the duties of running the Village adequately. Mrs. Wylubski stated that there are several homes on the back tax sale along with the houses that are falling down that should be torn down. We need a Code Enforcement Officer put into place to remove the campers, old campers, trash, unmowed yards, junk removal and burning that is taking place within the Village. The railroad bridge underpass has been an issue forever. The DPW needs to contact the necessary people to fix these ongoing issues. Mrs. Wylubski also stated that if the Mayor and Board of Trustees cannot get changes made then maybe they should think about abolishing the Village.
- Visitor Jerry Harris asked if the Village has advised for a Code Enforcement Officer. He also stated that if there are any perk tests that have been done recently, Mr. Metzger should turn them into the Village Office.
- Visitor Thomas O'Donnell asked the Village Board of Trustees why Mr. Metzger's resignation was not asked for long before now. Trustee Matthews stated that the previous Mayor was willing to accept the situation. Mr. O'Donnell asked the Village Board about the outcome of the last Board Meeting in regards to the woman who presented the Village Board with the photos of the 2 old houses that are falling in. It was explained that there is a process that is required to be conducted before any demolition can be done.
- Visitor Joan Pallateri stated that this Village has many houses that are up kept with high grass. The Village does not look nice.
- Visitor Jerry Harris asked about the code book. He stated to look at the subdivision laws, this will explain a lot.
- Visitor John Hinman expressed that he feels as though the Village should just use the County Code Enforcement. No one was ever able to get in touch with the Village Code Officer anyway.
- Visitor Pamela Wylubski stated that the County Code Enforcement Office is extremely busy with keeping up with what they have to deal with. It's important that we have someone local. They should know all the Rules and Regulations of the Village.
- Visitor Daniel Fagnani from Delaware Engineering, D.P.C. spoke with the Village Board of Trustees about the water tank replacement process. He informed the Board as to where we are in the process of the grant gathering and submission. Mr. Fagnani also answered questions that were addressed by village residents.
- Visitor Wendy Hosier asked Mr. Fagnani about the percentage of grant funding that the Village is hoping to receive. The Village is working towards the submission of the finalized report and application process to receive 60 % of grant funding. We have a 2 month window to submit the necessary paperwork. Mr. Fagnani stated that the water tank replacement comes as a recommendation from Chenango County. He asked the Village Board to supply him with a copy of this letter to submit along with the grant paperwork.
- Visitor Joan Pallateri asked the Village Board of Trustees why they would be placing notification in the Village's designated paper for hydrant flushing, but not when they changed out a pump. It was explained to Ms. Pallateri that the changing of the pump was an

emergency, that there are issues that sometimes arise. Where notifications are not made until after the emergency is handled.

- Visitor Jeffrey Butler asked the Village Board of Trustees why notifications are not placed in the Penny Saver. He stated it's free.
- The Village of Afton received a letter of request from Eddy Pezzino and Jenifer Phetteplace who owns Vincent's Restaurant located on Main Street. They are asking to relocate their dumpsters to either the far side of the parking lot next to the guard rails or to the back corner near the Great American. Trustee Matthews asked who owes the land next to the Great American. When they had their dumpsters there it was a great location.
- Visitor Pamela Wylubski stated that the dumpsters should all be enclosed, it looks better and smells better. This should be a code enforcement issue.
- A motion was made by Trustee Matthews to allow for Vincent's Restaurant to move their dumpsters, provided that they are enclosed for both health and safety reasons. Seconded by Trustee Harvey. All in favor motion passed.
- The Village of Afton received a letter of request from the Afton Parks Committee. They are requesting permission to set up and vend food items on the Community Building lawn during the Sidewalk Day, held on August 25, 2018. They will have the necessary food permit from Chenango County Board of Health.
- A motion was made by Trustee Matthews to allow for the Afton Parks Committee to use the Community Build lawn for the food vending sale on August 25, 2018. Seconded by Trustee Simonds. All in favor, motion passed.
- The Village Board of Trustees have been informed that the agreement with Eastern Energy to update the electrical lights within the entire Village Office Building has a start date of August 1, 2018. The project is expected to be completed by August 3, 2018.
- A letter from NYSDOT was distributed to the Village Board of Trustees in regards to the Village of Afton Strategic Plan Task 7 – Feasibility and Planning Study for Waterfront Revitalization.
- Visitor Joan Pallateri asked about the water front project. Visitor April Leggett informed Ms. Pallateri that all the information about the projects can be accessed on the shared Town / Village web page. Ms. Pallateri asked who was paying for these studies. Ms. Leggett stated that the Village has received 2 grants to help offset the costs of the studies.
- A motion was made by Trustee Matthews to accept the resignation of the Superintendent of Public Works Mr. David Bird. Seconded by Trustee Simonds. All in favor motion passed.
- A motion was made by Trustee Simonds to accept the resignation of Mr. Richard Metzger as the Village Code Enforcement Officer. Seconded by Trustee Harvey. All in favor, motion passed.
- Visitor Alysén Parsons asked who has been checking our water system, who has required water licenses.

- Visitor Pamela Wylubski stated that someone who is qualified should be running the water, our water is disgusting. Ms. Wylubski stated that maybe she should call the County. The Clerk / Treasurer explained to Mrs. Wylubski that she personally spoke with Isaiah Sutton at the County Health Department. Mr. Sutton stated that for the time being the County is confident with the 2 gentlemen currently working for the Village to continue running the water system until a new Superintendent is hired.
- Bring back to the table the motion that was made during our March 12, 2018 Board Meeting. We need to change the wording to include – “ A motion was made by Trustee Matthews and Seconded by Trustee Harvey **to make a negative declaration regarding SEORA and** to pass the Local Law #1 – 2018 Local Law Re-Zoning Tax Map Numbers 284.19-1-19.21 , 284.19-1-19.25 , 248.19-1-19.22, 284.19-19.23 and 289.07-1-13 from the Residential Single – Family (R-S) District to the Commercial – Industrial District (C-I). All in favor, motion passed.”
- A motion was made by Trustee Matthew to change the wording in the passing of the Local Law #1 of 2018 to include **to make a negative declaration regarding SEORA and** to pass the Local Law #1 – 2018 Local Law Re-Zoning Tax Map Numbers 284.19-1-19.21 , 284.19-1-19.25 , 248.19-1-19.22, 284.19-19.23 and 289.07-1-13 from the Residential Single – Family (R-S) District to the Commercial – Industrial District (C-I). Seconded by Trustee Simonds. All in favor, motion passed.
- The Village Board of Trustees were informed that lawn care letters were sent out to several village residents. No one has responded to the request of the mowing of their property. The DPW works will be mowing the unkempt lawns within the Village this week.
- A motion was made by Trustee Simonds increase the hourly rate for residents to be charged, when the DPW has to mow their properties, from \$25 to \$150.00 for each time the property is mowed by the Village of Afton. The residents will be billed for these services. If payment is not received the billing will be levied on to their taxes. Seconded by Trustee Matthews. All in favor, motion passed.
- The Village Board of Trustees have been informed that the Village has currently received one application for the Department of Public Works. The applicant currently has a Class “D” water license. The position of Superintendent of Public Works requires that the applicant first obtain the Class “C” water license.
- A decision needs to be made to see who will take the place of Mr. David Bird on July 17 & 18, 2018 at Morrisville College to obtain the Class “D” water licensing course. The Board asked Mayor Burnett to speak with Donald Lockwood to see if he’d be interested in attending.
- A letter was disturbed to the Village Board of Trustees from the NYS Comptroller’s Office.
- A motion was made by Trustee Simonds to purchase 500 Tri- Fold Brochures from One- Self Design Products at .50 each- minus the tax for the purpose of printing the new revised Water Rules & Regulations. Seconded by Trustee Matthews. All in favor, motion passed.
- A reminder of the 6th Annual Joelyn Sines 5K Run /Walk has been added to the Community Calendar Events on WBNG TV. The Event will be held on Saturday, August 11th, 2018 with a start time of 9 am. Registration forms for this event can be

found on the shared web site for the Town and Village at (www.townofafton.com).

- Visitor Judy Hinman asked the Village Board of Trustees about the use of the Susquehanna Room for future Chamber of Commerce Meetings. They would like to hold meeting on the 1st Wednesday of the month from 7 pm - 9 pm. Mrs. Hinman was directed to speak with the Clerk / Treasurer on the availability of the Community Room.
- Visitor Judy Hinman asked the Village Board of Trustees about a contest that the Chamber of Commerce would like to conduct during the Sidewalk Day Sale on Saturday, August 25th, 2018. They would like to part take in a sign making contest for the Village of Afton. The Village would decide where the winning Signs should be placed around the Village.
- A motion was made by Trustee Zablocki and Seconded by Trustee Matthews to go into executive session, for personnel reasons. All in favor, motion passed. 8:37 pm.
- A motion was made by Trustee Zablocki and Seconded by Trustee Simonds to close executive session. All in favor, motion passed. 9:26pm. 4- 0
- A motion was made to make by Trustee Zablocki to audit the Clerk / Treasurers fiscal year 2017 / 2018 records. Seconded by Trustee Simonds. All in favor, motion passed. 4 -0
- A motion was made by Trustee Zablocki to adjourn our regular meeting at 9:35 pm and Seconded by Trustee Matthews. All in favor, motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted
Ann Palmatier
Clerk / Treasurer