

Village of Afton
Board of Trustees Meeting
Jack D. Bolster Community Center, Afton, NY
March 13, 2023

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held March 13, 2023 in the Susquehanna Room, 105 Main Street, Afton, NY

Meeting called to order at 7:04 pm, by Acting Mayor, Trustees Lawrence.

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

Absent: Officer in Charge, Stanko

Visitors: Maryann Palmetier, Linda Matthews, Donald Ouimet, Rhonda Barriger, Cynthia Hervochon, Patrick Dedman, Elizabeth Briggs, Tyler Lawrence and Ken & Lori Vail.

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

General Fund Voucher's # 266 - 292, totaling \$126,067.66.

Water Fund Voucher's # 113 – 122, totaling \$7,440.73.

- Motion to accept previous minutes and budget workshop minutes from March 7, 2023 with no additions or correction, made by Trustee Humphrey. Seconded by Trustee Winans. All in favor, motion passed.

Monthly Report:

- **DPW/ Water:** Report distributed, read aloud by DPW Supervisor Bailey DeBetta. In addition to his report DPW Supervisor DeBetta informed the Village Board of Trustee that the 2012 Ford – F250 truck has sold at auction for \$20, 200.00. He has gone a head an accepted this bid, as the Village Board of Trustees has made a motion to sell at a minimal bid of \$15,000.00. DPW DeBetta stated that he had spoken with Officer Stanko about the DPW crew stripped out the old police car, all lights have been removed. He will get a hold Auction International to place the car out for bids, as a motion has already been made to surplus this vehicle. The radio has been installed in the backhoe. The crew has been working on cleaning up and clearing the wooded area near the well house across from the Fairgrounds.
- **Police Department.** Report distributed, read aloud by Acting Mayor, Trustee Lawrence. Acting Mayor, Trustee Lawrence stated that this report along will all others will be place on the Village web page for public viewing.
- Acting Mayor, Trustee Lawrence informed the Village Board of Trustees that she spoke with the Business Manager at the School, to see if they were aware of any Safe Routes to School Grants available to help offset the costs of some digital solar speed limit signs. She

expects to hear back with an answer soon. This would be a great benefit to the entire community.

- Visitor Rhonda Barriger expressed her concern over the traffic passing by the fairgrounds. She stated that everyone treats that stretch of road like a freeway. It was stated that the village is working on grants to obtain blinking digital solar speed limit signs to help reduce the speeding that occurs in the village.
- Code Enforcement: Report distributed, read aloud by Code Enforcement Officer Butler.
- Acting Mayor, Trustee Lawrence asked Code Officers, Mr. Butler if he knew if the person who had complained about the trash near the Dollar General had gone in to speak with someone at the store. Mr. Butler stated no, he didn't think so. It was his understanding that they had phoned the office and spoke with the Clerk.
- Planning Board: Trustees Humphrey informed the Village Board of Trustees that the Planning Board has continued to work with Mr. & Mrs. Vail on their variance request.
- Mr. Kenneth Vail stood and introduced himself and expressed interest in joining the Zoning Board of Appeals. There was a discussion that if Mr. Vail were to be appointed that he'd need to abstain from his own variance request, when the time comes. Acting Mayor, Trustee Lawrence expressed to Mr., Vail that they would love to have him on board, that they'd come back to that discussion. Act Mayor, Trustee Lawrence expressed to all in attendance that the Village is continually looking for new members for the Planning Board as well as the Zoning Board of Appeals. These committees are a great way to get involved without a lot of commitment. The Planning Board, does meet once a month, however the Zone Board of Appeals meets on an as needed basis.
- Finance/Insurance: Up to date, remain the same.
- 4 Towns Forward: Acting Mayor, Trustees Lawrence asked Trustee Komorowski if she had anything to report. Trustee Komorowski stated no.
- Clerks Report: The Village Clerk /Treasurer Palmatier stated nothing new at this time.
- Historian Report: Report distributed, read aloud by Acting Mayor, Trustee Lawrence. Acting Mayor, Trustee Lawrence expressed that Mrs. Ouimet puts a lot of time and effect into her work. This report will be posted to the Village web page for viewing.
- Dog Control Officer: - No report.
- Afton Central School – No representative. Acting Mayor, Trustee Lawrence announced that due to the incoming weather school will be closed tomorrow.

Old Business:

- A motion made by Trustee Humphrey to accept the updated water rates & categories set by the Village Board of Trustees on Mach 7, 2023, with the correction to add Bar, Restaurant, Food Establishment which are all in the same price category under the same water rates service category line. A letter will be composed to be sent to the water use residents along with a copy of these new rates, giving notice that these set prices will go

in effect with the next water billing cycle in July of 2023. Seconded by Trustee Winans. All in favor, motion passed.

- Visitor Elizabeth Briggs asked about the water rates pricing, what price the Afton Fair pays and what about the Races. Visitor Rhonda Barriger, spoke up and said we pay, I sign the check.

New Business:

- A motion made by Trustee Humphrey to move \$4,543.55, from Capital Reserves Water Improvement Savings Fund for payment of Invoice # 1 7 - to Lamont Engineers for engineering services as follows:
(8320.20 – Water Contractual – for \$4,543.55).
Seconded by Trustee Komorowski. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee Winans to move \$1,134.00, from Capital Reserves Water Improvement Savings Fund for payment of Invoice # 1 8 - to Lamont Engineers for engineering services as follows:
(8320.20 – Water Contractual – for \$1,134.00).
Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee Komorowski to move \$335.26 in the general budget from General Support Contractual (A1989.40) to Unallocated Insurance (1910.40), for payment of increased insurance policies. Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee Humphrey to move \$136.48 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.
- A motion made by Trustee Komorowski to move \$111.42 in the general budget from Police Staff Training (3120.44) to Police Uniforms (3120.45), for budget overage. Seconded by Trustee Winans. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee Komorowski to move \$29.51 in the general budget from Police Office Supplies (3120.46) to Police Uniforms (3120.45), for budget overage. Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee Winans to set Public Hearing at the April 10, 2023 regular scheduled board meeting at 7:15 pm for the purpose of informing the public of the tentative water and general budgets for 2023-2024. Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee Humphrey to close office on Wednesday, March 15, 2023, instead on Monday, March 20, 2023 as pervious asked by Village Clerk, due to medical reasons. Seconded by Trustee Winans. All in favor, motion passed.

Recognition of Visitors:

- Visitor Rhonda Barriger presented the Village Board of Trustees with a letter of request from the Afton Driving Park and Agricultural Association for a waiver from permits and

fees for the 2023 Afton Fair, taking place on July 6 -9. The money not spent on permits would allow the Fair Board to improve the infrastructure of the fairgrounds.

- A motion made by Trustee Humphrey to waive the vender permit fees for The Afton Driving Park and Agricultural Association for the 2023 Fair to be held from July 6- 9, 2023. Seconded by Trustee Winans. All in favor, motion passed.
- Visitor Rhonda Barriger presented the Village Board of Trustees with a letter of request from the Afton Driving Park and Agricultural Association requesting the use of the parking area owned by the village across from the Fairgrounds, during the week of the 2023 fair. They are also requesting an extension of 1 hour curfew for events be held on Friday, July 7 and Saturday, July 8, 2022 at the Afton Fair. This would extend the crew from 11: 00 pm to Midnight.
- A motion made by Trustee Winans to grant the request of the Afton Driving Park and Agriculture Association to allow for parking on the Village owned property across from the fairgrounds and to extend the curfew by one hour. Seconded by Trustee Komorowski. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion was made by Trustee Humphrey to appoint Mr. Kenneth Vail as a Zoning Board of Appeals Member. Seconded by Trustee Winans. All in favor, motion passed.
- Trustee Komorowski stated that she sees signs around town and information posted on Facebook in regards to the upcoming Village Election, taking place on Tuesday, March 21, 2023 from noon – 9:00 pm. She wished everyone good luck.
- Visitor Tyler Lawrence asked when new officials are sworn in. Acting Mayor, Trustee Lawrence stated that on April 3, 2023 is when the term begins. Those who are elected will need to come to the office to see the Clerk to sign and fill out paperwork. The first board meeting for those who are elected will be on April 10, 2023.
- Visitor Tyler Lawrence thank Trustee Komorowski for her service as a Village Trustees, he stated that she did a great job. Trustee Komorowski thanked Mr. Lawrence.
- The Village Board of Trustees thanked Trustee Komorowski for her service. Acting Mayor Trustee Lawrence expressed to Trustee Komorowski that they are still looking of Committee Members.
- Acting Mayor, Trustee Lawrence expressed her gratitude to Clerk/Treasurer Palmatier for her help in her transition as Acting Mayor. Clerk/Treasurer Palmatier has been helpful and knowledgeable.
- Visitor Linda Matthews expressed to Trustee Komorowski that she hopes that she will continues to help at the food pantry. Mrs. Matthews stated that we are still looking for volunteers if anyone is interested. They need help on Wednesday's from 5 pm – 7pm, anyone who would like to help could contact Gerry Matthews.
- A motion made by Trustee Komorowski to adjourn our regular meeting at 7:50 pm. Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in favor, motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted Ann Palmatier Clerk / Treasurer