

Village of Afton
Board of Trustees Meeting
Jack D. Bolster Community Center, Afton, NY
May 10, 2021

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held May 10, 2021 in the Susquehanna Room, 105 Main Street, Afton, NY

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

Mayor Nickerson welcomed everyone, and reminded 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 Palmatier, DPW Supervisor Bailey DeBetta and Code Enforcement Officer, Jeffery Butler.

Visitors: Charles Torres, Donald Ouimet, Harold & Eileen Hanson, Rhonda Barriger, Timothy McNamara, Kathy Ryan, Michael Lawrence and April Leggett.

- A motion was made by Trustee Muller authorizing Clerk/Treasurer to pay the following audited vouchers, Seconded by Trustee Simonds. All in favor, motion passed.
General Fund Vouchers # 341 - 368, Totaling \$11,466.44.
Water Fund Vouchers # 101 – 111, Totaling \$40,538.53.
- Motion to accept previous minutes with no additions or correction, made by Trustee Muller. Seconded by Trustee Simonds. All in favor, motion passed.

Monthly Report:

- DPW/ Water: Report distributed. Read aloud by DPW Supervisor Bailey DeBetta.
- Police Department. Reports distributed, read aloud by Mayor Nickerson.
- Code Enforcement: Report distributed, read aloud by Code Enforcement Officer, Jeffery Butler.
- Planning Board: Trustee Humphrey informed the Village Board of Trustees that the Planning Board had questions presented to them by Mr. Kenneth Vail about the zoning districts on his property which the Planning Board answered. Planning Board Member April Leggett continues to work on the business based home occupation rules.
- Finance/Insurance: Up to date.
- Christmas Parade Committee: Remains the same.

- Parks Committee: Trustee Simonds informed the Village Board of Trustees that the Afton Parks Association has secured the band, Short Change for October 2021, provided restrictions are lifted to allow for dancing, to be held at the River Club. Trustee Muller stated that the Afton Community Parks Association will continue holding meetings on the 4th Monday of every month at 7pm, at the Jack D. Bolster Community Center to discuss fundraising events for the Village Parks. Mayor Nickerson stated that the DPW Department is hopeful, weather permitting to install the playground equipment next week.
- Historian Report: Report distributed. Mayor Nickerson stated that the Town / Village Historian, Kathy Ouimet has out done herself. Mrs. Ouimet's new book has already sold out.
- Dog Control Officer: - Reports distributed for April 2021.
- Afton Central School – Mr. Timothy McNamara informed the Village Board of Trustees that the school is working on graduation and moving up day ceremonies. The Building remodeling project is continuing, all heating and cooling systems have been installed. Most of the projects work will begin by June 28th, 2021, after the school children have left the building for the summer. Our sports activities have resumed, for those of you who were not aware. Most of the children have resumed full time class participation. The state exam for mathematics has just been administered. The State Hwy 7 project will have the foundation poured next week.

Old Business:

New Business:

- DPW Supervisor Bailey DeBetta informed the Village Board of Trustees that he had sent out 4 requests for stone bids, after our last board meeting. He stated that he has received only 1 reply, for under \$10,000.00.
- A motion made by Trustee Muller to extend the sending of bids for the delivery of stone. Seconded by Trustee Simonds. All in favor, motion passed.
- Trustee Muller asked to table the current purchase of a Taser, to see if there are other company's or a state bid that may be less expensive. It was agreed to table this discussion for now.
- A motion made by Trustee Muller to close the Village Office on Monday, May 31, 2021 in observance of memorial Day. Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in favor. Motion passed.
- A letter of request for water connection – Mayor Nickerson stated that the Village received a request to connect water on a property located on Merritt Road. The Village does have a Moratorium stating that no water will be supplied to residents living outside of the Village limits. If water billing remains unpaid there is no way for the Village to relevy for nonpayment. Mayor Nickerson stated that she has asked DPW Supervisor Bailey DeBetta to go look at this location. DPW Supervisor stated that there are water lines that run though this property, but that the lines are so old that most likely if we start

to dig them up, it would create greater problems. DPW Supervisor stated that there are no previous dwelling on this property, therefore there probably is no curb box as indicated.

- Mayor Nickerson asked the Village Board of Trustees if they all have had a chance to review the information she had sent them about Cannabis Retail Sales. Trustee Muller stated that her opinion was to, opt out for the possible sales within the Village limits. Mayor Nickerson stated that we can opt out, if we choose to opt in again at any point that is an option as well.
- A motion made by Trustee Muller to hold a Public Hearing on Monday, June 14, 2021, at 7:05 pm, during our Regular scheduled Board Meeting for the purpose of adoption of Local Law #2 of 2021, Cannabis Law 131 opting out of licensing and establishing retail cannabis dispensaries and/or on-site cannabis consumption establishments within the Village of Afton, NY. Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee Muller to accept the following, information for the Village of Afton, yearly Organizational Meeting.

Village of Afton Organizational Resolutions as follows:

2021-2022 Mayoral Appointments

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor – Janice Nickerson (2020 – 2022) • Deputy Mayor - Trustee Lawrence • Trustee – Two Term – Robert Humphrey Jr. (2020-2022) • Clerk Treasurer - Ann Palmatier • Chief Fiscal Officer - Ann Palmatier • Tax Collector - Ann Palmatier • Records Management Officer - Ann Palmatier • Election Official – Ann Palmatier • Superintendent of Public Works - Bailey DeBetta • Village Attorney - Nathan VanWhy, Coughlin & Gerhart • Code Enforcement Officer - Jeffrey Butler • Officer in Charge – Anjelica Stanko • Auditor of Claims – Mayor, All Trustee’s 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DPW / Water Committee – Trustee Humphrey Trustee Lawrence • Police Committee – Trustee Muller Trustee Lawrence • Planning Board Committee – Trustee Humphrey Trustee Simonds • Finance / Insurance Committee – Trustee Muller Trustee Simonds
---	--

WHEREAS, the board of trustees has determined to set the second Monday at 7:00 pm of every month for the official meeting night, and

WHEREAS, the board of trustees will meet on this night unless otherwise advertised,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the board of Trustees shall hold their official meetings on the Second Monday of every month unless otherwise notified or advertised. In the Susquehanna Room at the Jack D. Bolster Community Center 105 Main Street.

WHEREAS, the next Village Organizational Meeting, shall be, held at the May 2022 regular scheduled meeting.

WHEREAS, the board of trustees has determined to authorize payment in advance of audit of claims for public utility services, postage, freight and express charges, payroll.

WHEREAS, all such claims shall be presented at the next regular meeting for audit, and WHEREAS, the claimant and officer incurring or approving the same shall be jointly and severally liable for any amount disallowed by the board of trustees,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the board of trustees authorizes payment in advance of audit of claims for the public utility services, postage freight and express charges, payroll and all such claims shall be presented at the next regular meeting for audit and the claimant and officer incurring or approving the same shall be jointly and severally liable for any amount disallowed by the board of trustees.

WHEREAS, the Planning Board monthly meeting shall be, held on the first Monday of each Mouth at 7 pm, at the same address.

POLICIES:

WHEREAS, the current policies adopted by the Village of Afton, shall continue to be in place.

- Procurement Policy
- Policy Against Discrimination and Harassment
- Policy on Sexual Harassment
- Workplace Violence Policy and Procedure
- Municipal Ban on Weapons in the Workplace
- Internet, E-mail and Computer Usage Policy
- All adopted Policies pertaining to the Village of Afton Police Department.

MILEAGE ALLOWANCE:

WHEREAS, the board of trustees has determined to pay a fixed rate for mileage as reimbursement to officers and employees of the Village who use their personal automobiles while performing their office duties on behalf of the Village:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the board of Trustees shall approve reimbursement to such officers and employees at the rate of \$0.50 per mile.

MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES:

WHEREAS, there is to be held during the coming official year:

- a. The New York Conference of Mayors Annual Meeting and Training School.
- b. Annual NYS Conference of Mayors and other officials Public Work Training School for Public Works Superintendents
- c. NYS Rural Waterworks Association for Waterworks personnel;

- d. NYS Association of Municipal Purchasing Officials Annual School
- e. Unscheduled seminars and classes for miscellaneous topics including records management, audit, finance, planning and zoning, etc.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED;

That the following officers and employees are hereby authorized to attend the above: Mayor, Clerk/Treasurer Trustees, Superintendent of Public Works, Waterworks personnel, planning Board members, Zoning Officer and Zoning Board members all after giving the Board the proper notification and the seminars/conferences are within the approved budget.

DESIGNATION OF OFFICIAL DEPOSITORIES:

WHEREAS, the board of trustees, Pursuant to Section 4-412 of Village Law, designated that NBT Bank Corporation is the official depository for investment of funds for the Village of Afton.

MAYORAL DESIGNATIONS:

Planning Board

- Bruce Bosket
- Ernest Cutting Jr.
- April Leggett
- William Hosier
- Girard Matthews –Chairperson

Zoning Board

- Michael Lawrence
- Charles Torres

Village Historian

- Kathleen Ouimet

OTHER ANNUAL

MAYORAL DESIGNATIONS:

Official Radio
 Official Newspaper
 Official Signatures

WCDO, Sidney
 The Evening Sun & the Penny saver
 Mayor Nickerson, Clerk Treasurer Ann Palmatier

Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in favor, motion passed.

- A motion made by Trustee Muller to move \$33,600.00, from Capital Reserves Water Improvement Savings Fund for the payment to Lamont Engineers, as follows: (8320.40 – Well Source Supply Contractual Expense – for \$33,600.00). Seconded by Trustee Simonds. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee Simonds to move \$3,145.00 from (9550.20 - Equipment Fund Reserves) for the following General Budget Appropriations:

(A1620.40 – Contractual Expense – for \$46.50).
(1620.42- Electricity Buildings – for \$13.96).
(A1620.44 – Supplies/Equipment – for \$84.99).
(A1640.44- Oxygen/Tools – for \$89.70).
(A3120.46 – Police Office Supplies –for \$26.46).
(A5110.20- Street Maintenance –Equipment/ Vehicle – for \$1,428.65).
(A9060.80 – Hospital & Medical Insurance –for \$1,454.74).
Seconded by Trustee Muller. All in favor, motion passed.

- A motion made by Trustee Muller to move \$5099.20, from General Fund Savings Account #2 for the following General Budget Appropriations:
(A5110.10 –Street Maintenance-Personal Services – for \$4,360.52).
(A9060.80 – Hospital & Medical Insurance –for \$738.68).
Seconded by Trustee Simonds. All in favor, motion passed.

Recognition of Visitors:

- Visitor Michael Lawrence informed all in attendance that the Afton Town Board is in need of Planning Board Members, for anyone who may be interested, you can contact the Chairperson, Cliff Olin.
- Visitor Rhonda Barriger presented the Village Board of Trustees with a letter of request of waivers from the Afton Driving Park and Agricultural Association for events held at the Afton Fairgrounds, which would financially benefit the Afton Driving Park and Agricultural Association. The waiver of permits for requested dates will be for the 2021 Afton Fair and for events held in 2021.
- A motion was made by Trustee Muller to waive the vender permit fees for The Afton Driving Park and Agricultural Association for the 2021 Fair and other events of 2021 that would directly benefit the Afton Driving Park and Agricultural Association. Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in favor, motion passed.
- Visitor Charles Torres asked why only 4 gravel bids, why not advertise. It was explained to Mr. Torres that advertising cost money, that the Village has a need for such a small amount of gravel, compared to bigger communities.
- Visitor Charles Torres stated that he is a part of the Police Committee. He can confirm that the Afton Village Police Departments Taser is out dated. The current Taser offers only one shot, new models offer the Officer a second shot if needed. Mr. Torres suggested to the Village Board of Trustees that they try purchasing the same brand used by the County, as most of our Officers are Chenango County Deputy's.
- Visitor Charles Torres expressed that he is concerned about a resident having more than the allowable amount of chickens as the new law indicates. Mr. Torres expressed that if you allow one, you have to allow everyone the same amount. It was stated that all residents must comply with the rules, no exceptions.
- Visitor Charles Torres asked that the School Zone Sign between his garage and his neighbor's barn be cleared of the over growth.

- Visitor Charles Torres expressed to the Village Board of Trustees that he agrees that there should be no sale of cannabis in the Village of Afton.
- A motion made by Trustee Muller to adjourn our regular meeting at 7:58 pm. Seconded by Trustee Simonds. All in favor, motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted

Ann Palmatier
Clerk / Treasurer