

Village of Afton
Board of Trustees Meeting
Jack D. Bolster Community Center, Afton, NY
September 13, 2021

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees held September 13, 2021 in the Susquehanna Room, 105 Main Street, Afton, NY

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

Present: Mayor Nickerson, Trustee Simonds, Trustee Humphrey, Trustee Lawrence, Clerk/Treasurer Palmatier, DPW Supervisor Bailey DeBetta, Officer in Charge, Anjelica Stanko and Code Enforcement Officer, Jeffrey Butler.

Absent: Trustee Dedman.

Visitors: Linda Matthews, Timothy McNamara and Maryann Palmetier.

- A motion was made by Trustee Simonds authorizing Clerk/Treasurer to pay the following audited vouchers, Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in favor, motion passed.
General Fund Vouchers # 82 - 110, Totaling \$19,752.86.
Water Fund Vouchers # 34 – 45, Totaling \$14,414.71.
- Motion to accept previous minutes with no additions or correction, made by Trustee Lawrence. Seconded by Trustee Simonds. All in favor, motion passed.

Monthly Report:

- DPW/ Water: Report distributed. Read aloud by DPW Supervisor Bailey DeBetta.
- Police Department. Report distributed. Read aloud by Officer in Charge, Angelica Stanko.
- Code Enforcement: Report distributed, read aloud by Code Enforcement Officer Jeffrey Butler.
- Planning Board: Trustee Humphrey informed the Village Board of Trustees that he did not have any current minutes. The Planning Board met with the NEXUS Renewable Inc. for further discussions on the site plan review on the proposed solar project at 151 Caswell Street. The Public Hearing that was scheduled for last month's meeting was postponed. It has been rescheduled for the next Planning Board Meeting to be held on Monday, October 4, 2021 at 7:10 pm. A resident came to the Planning Board Meeting to voice their concern on the placement of proposed solar project.
- Finance/Insurance: Remains the same.

- Christmas Parade Committee: Mayor Nickerson asked Trustee Simonds, if she had been in contact with Brenda James. Trustee Simonds stated that she has left a message for a returned phone call.
- Parks Committee: Trustee Simonds informed the Village Board of Trustees that the Parks Committee will be hosting a lunch-in at the Rendezvous on Sunday, September 19, 2021 at 3pm for the community members who helped install the playground equipment at Leggett Park. The Park is planning a movie night on Saturday, September 25, 2021 for the elementary school children. Information will be sent home with all elementary school children.
- Historian Report: Report distributed.
- Dog Control Officer: - Report distributed.
- Afton Central School – Mr. Timothy McNamara informed the Village Board of Trustees that all students have returned to school 5 days a week. All students and staff are expected to wear masks, unless outside. Social distancing of 6 feet is still being implemented. The top soil is being spread on the school fields, seeding should be done within the next 2 weeks. The fencing is almost completed, gates will need to be installed. The brick has begun to be placed on the new bus garage on highway 7. The school will begin to offer Covid – 19 testing for staff members. Eventually students will be offered the option as well. We're proud to say our athletics department is up and running.

Old Business:

New Business:

- DPW Supervisor Bailey DeBetta informed the Village Board of Trustees that the County has finished the removal of gravel and debris in the Bumps Creek area where flooding was accruing in and around residents homes. The amount of the removal was just what was allowable by the permit that was issued by New York State Department Conservation.
- The Village of Afton received a letter from the Greater Area Chamber of Commerce requesting a waiver of permits for the Afton Sidewalk Day, held on Saturday, August 21, 2021. There were discussions that this request must be submitted to the Village Board of Trustees in a timely manner. A motion was made by Trustee Lawrence to waive the permits for Sidewalk Day, held on Sunday, August 21, 2021. Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee Simonds to adopt the Resolution of the 2021 Chenango County, NY Hazard Mitigation Plan Update. Seconded by Trustee Lawrence. All in favor, motion passed.

2021 Chenango County, NY Hazard Mitigation Plan Update as follows:

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE VILLAGE OF AFTON, NY.

AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF THE 2021 CHENANGO COUNTY, NY HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE

WHEREAS, all jurisdictions within Chenango County have exposure to natural hazards that increase the risk to life, property, environment, and the County and local economy; and

WHEREAS; pro-active mitigation of known hazards before a disaster event can reduce or eliminate long-term risk to life and property; and

WHEREAS, The Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-390) established new requirements for pre and post disaster hazard mitigation programs; and

WHEREAS; a coalition of Chenango County municipalities with like planning objectives has been formed to pool resources and create consistent mitigation strategies within Chenango County; and

WHEREAS, the coalition has completed a planning process that engages the public, assesses the risk and vulnerability to the impacts of natural hazards, develops a mitigation strategy consistent with a set of uniform goals and objectives, and creates a plan for implementing, evaluating and revising this strategy;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village of Afton:

- 1) Adopts in its entirety, the 2021 Chenango County Hazard Mitigation Plan Update (the “Plan”) as the jurisdiction’s Hazard Mitigation Plan, and resolves to execute the actions identified in the Plan that pertain to this jurisdiction.
- 2) Will use the adopted and approved portions of the Plan to guide pre- and post-disaster mitigation of the hazards identified.
- 3) Will coordinate the strategies identified in the Plan with other planning programs and mechanisms under its jurisdictional authority.
- 4) Will continue its support of the Mitigation Planning Committee as described within the Plan.
- 5) Will help to promote and support the mitigation successes of all participants in this Plan.
- 6) Will incorporate mitigation planning as an integral component of government and partner operations.
- 7) Will provide an update of the Plan in conjunction with the County no less than every five years.

PASSED AND ADOPTED on this 13 day of September, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES: 4 _____
NAYS: _____
ABSENT: 1 _____
ABSTAIN: _____

- A motion by Trustee Lawrence to move \$11,000.00, from Capital Reserves Water Improvement Savings Fund for the payment to Lamont Engineers for engineering services., as follows:

(8320.40 – Well Source Supply Contractual Expense – for \$11,000.00).

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

- A motion made by Trustee Simonds to allow for the Police Committee to look into the benefits of a possible full time Police Officer. Seconded by Trustee Lawrence. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee Simonds to allow for Mayor Nickerson to apply for a small grant to fund a Christmas/ Holiday sign for the Village. Seconded by Trustee Lawrence. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee Lawrence to contribute \$50.00 a month to the Four Towns Moving Forward for Membership Fees. Seconded by Trustee Simonds. All in favor, motion passed.
- Discussions of the possible purchase of a banner to be placed on a vehicle for the Four Towns Moving Forward – Half-way to St. Patrick’s Day Parade to be held on Saturday , September 25, 2021 at 2:00 pm. It was decided that the Village would place the Village Police cruiser along with the possibility of one of the DPW Trucks in the parade to represent the Village of Afton.
- Mayor Nickerson informed the Village Board of Trustees that she spoke with Brendon Becker, Lamont Engineer project manager about the 3 abandoned houses within the Village. Mr. Becker informed the Mayor that there is a Community Development Block Grants available to help assist to demolish these abandoned houses. Mayor Nickerson asked for a motion to allow for her to apply for a CDBG Grant with Mr. Becker’s assistance.
- A motion made by Trustee Simonds to allow for Mayor Nickerson to apply for a Community Development Block Grant for the purpose of the demolition of the abandoned houses within the Village of Afton, with the assistance of Project Manager, Brendon Becker. Seconded By Trustee Humphrey. All in favor, motion passed.
- Mayor Nickerson informed those in attendance that Halloween would be held on Sunday, October 31, 2021 from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm within the Village.

Recognition of Visitors:

- Visitor Linda Matthews, thanked DPW Supervisor Bailey DeBetta for filling in the pot holes on the corner of Sand Street and Caswell Street. Mrs. Matthews noted that the sidewalk in front of her home has dropped about 4 inches, with winter coming they are concerned that more damage may occur. She stated that her neighbor’s sidewalk has dropped about 2 inches. DPW Supervisor Bailey DeBetta stated that he’d take a look at the sidewalks in question.
- A motion made by Trustee Simonds to enter into executive session to discuss village related business at 7:50 pm. Seconded by Trustee Lawrence. All in favor, motion passed
- A motion made by Trustee Simonds to exit executive session at 8:07 pm. Seconded by Trustee Lawrence. All in favor, motion passed.

- A motion made by Trustee Humphrey to accept the letter with some minor changes presented by the Police Committee to be sent to the Village of Afton Police Force informing them of the expectations set by the Village of Afton Board of Trustees. Seconded by Trustee Lawrence. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee Lawrence to officially name the land owned by the Village of Afton, NY located on East Main Street, across from the Fairgrounds, Muller Park. Seconded by Trustee Simonds. All in favor, motion passed.
- A motion made by Trustee Simonds to adjourn our regular meeting at 8:09 pm. Seconded by Trustee Humphrey. All in favor, motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted

Ann Palmatier
Clerk / Treasurer