

Regular work session of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Newark Valley was held Tuesday evening, **February 24, 2020** at 6:30 PM in the Municipal Building.

**Present were:**

Mayor	James Tornatore
Deputy Mayor	Cliff Alexander
Trustees	Scott Parmelee
	John Tomazin
Clerk/Treasurer	Pam Benthin
DPW Supervisor	Bill Foster
Attorney	Frank Como

**BILLS:**

Presented. Approved in the amount of \$5,317.42, from abstract number 45-20, and 46-20 with a Motion by Parmelee, seconded by Alexander. Carried.

**WORK IN PROGRESS:**

- *Water Rates & Water Billing/Meter Read System Upgrade* – Mayor Tornatore reviews how the current rate schedule was established; Rates to be reassessed as its been 10 years since last assessment; Discussion of current rate schedule and status of funds for water system; In depth discussion of ‘debt’ service charge and the increase increments of how it is charged.

**GUEST PRESENTATION:**

Schmidt’s Wholesale/Badger Meter: Introduction and history of Schmidts Whole; Presentation of new cloud-based billing software and hardware upgrades, as well as cellular options for future upgrades.

**WORK IN PROGRESS:**

- *Water Billing System update* – After receiving all tonight’s information the Board must decide between Zenner/Blair Supply and Badger/Schmidt’s Wholesale; Decision must be made before the next water billing.
- *DPW Barn* – Trustee Parmelee inquires of the probability of moving forward with the barn window replacement after acquiring the quote from Window World; Funds are not available from the 2020 budget, will access in the coming months if funds are available in the 2021 budget
- *Smart Watt – Maintenance Agreement* – DPW Foster awaiting quotes from Triple E Power and Matco Electric.

- *Village Welcome Signs* – DPW Foster received quote from Triple E for installation of signposts; Foster to acquire guarantee that the sign will fit or Triple E will make necessary adjustments at time of sign install in the spring.
- *Master Plan/Mitigation/Housing Study* – Discussion of what steps are left to complete and whether to be completed by Village or Thoma Development Consultants.
- *DPW Retirement/Apprentice* – Another application has been received; County Civil Service will post job listing once complete; Deputy Mayor Alexander has received permission from the school district to speak with school guidance counselors and BOCES for possible candidates; Discussion of alternate DPW staffing possibilities.
- *NT Chamber – Community Foundation Grant* – Due Monday March 2<sup>nd</sup>; Quotes obtained from A-Construction and Whittemore Construction, awaiting 3<sup>rd</sup> quote; Grant 2/3<sup>rds</sup> complete, Chamber has been involved & helpful in completion.
- *USDA Grant – Truck* – Due end of March 2020; Discussion of completion of grant by Village Office or hire grant writer to complete due to current work load on office staff; Board approves payout of overtime for office staff; Discussion of grant, 75/25 grant; DPW Foster estimates truck total cost of \$50-100k, awaiting quotes of current years pricing and options.
- *Tioga County Landbank* – County acquires properties via tax sale, then gives properties to the Landbank; Landbank is considering properties in Village of Newark Valley
- *Triple Cities Tech – Disclaimer Form* – Villages' new tech support company; has completed the installation of our new Windows 10 computers; TCT recommends using their backup service for backup of files daily; Cost of backup service is not available in current budget; Due to not using this service TCT requires a disclaimer form signed; See below motion.
- *Municipal Building – Deed Discrepancy* – Attorney Como previously discovered a discrepancy in the 9 Park Street abstract in regards to the back parking area; Currently deed contains a reverter, if the property were to be used for any purpose other than municipal the ownership of the property would return to the NVCSO; Como spoke with NVCSO legal counsel, school has no interest in possession of the property at any future date; Village to incur the expense of having a new deed drawn with reverter removed.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### MOTION

Motion for Mayor Tornatore to sign required disclaimer form for Triple Cities Tech regarding file backup process (Copy attached) – motion by Alexander, seconded by Parmelee.

**RESOLUTION #45-20**

Authorization of Transfer of Funds (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by Alexander, seconded by Parmelee. Roll call vote. Alexander, Parmelee, Tomazin, Tornatore. -Yes. 0 - No. Carried.

**RESOLUTION #46-20**

Authorization of Village Treasurer to Transfer funds to Water Capital Improvement Reserves (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by Alexander, seconded by Parmelee. Roll call vote. Alexander, Parmelee, Tomazin, Tornatore. -Yes. 0 - No. Carried.

**BOARD COMMENTS/CONCERNS:**

Discussion of continuation of scheduled monthly work sessions; general consensus is to eliminate the scheduled work session and return to past practice of one monthly board meeting with secondary meetings scheduled as needed; Resolution to be presented at Aprils organizational meeting.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Alexander, seconded by Trustee Tomazin to adjourn at 9:46 PM.  
Carried

Jessica Moore  
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer