

Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Newark Valley was held Tuesday evening, **July 14th, 2020** at 6:30 PM on the Village Green with the public present to be in compliance with COVID-19 requirements.

Present were:

Mayor	James Tornatore
Deputy Mayor	Cliff Alexander
Trustees	Michael Reynolds
	Scott Parmelee
	John Tomazin
Clerk/Treasurer	Pam Benthin
Attorney	Frank Como

MINUTES: Minutes unavailable.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Discussed as presented.
Reconciled as of June 30, 2020

BILLS: Presented. Approved in the amount of \$77,452.01, from abstract number 11-21, 12-21 and 13-21 with a Motion by Reynolds, seconded by Parmelee. Carried.

GUEST:

- Joe Onofrio – Water rates/fees related to properties without meters being billed Capital Charge and Debt Service Charges; Concerns regarding notice received from Village Code Enforcement pertaining to Red Placard placement upon vacant properties.
- John Haney & Jim Van Nordstrand of NVFD – Explanation of the three levels of red placards for vacant properties; Placement of placards on properties is first and foremost for the safety of all first responders; Inspections completed to determine level of placard needed will not result in any code violations for property owners; Length discussion ensued.

WORK IN PROGRESS:

- DPW Equipment – Discussion of finance options; Use funds from Reserves & Contingency accounts; Clerk suggests waiting until next year and taking advantage of USDA 15% grant; Discussion of funding 1 truck this year AND 1 truck next year; Discussion of current revenue status and projected status due to COVID; Discussion of taking a traditional loan instead of using funds; Clerk to contact bank for term and rate information; PW Supervisor to get updated quote for truck.
- Vacant Property Placards – Review of information from guests from NVFD; Discussion of placards and whether they invite more trespassing/crime/police presence, possibly, but the safety of our first responders outweighs the risk of possible crime rate increase.

- Code Enforcement – CEO Bill Foster will be resigning from his position as Code Enforcement Officer effective 12/31/2020 due to lack of mandatory credit hours needed due to cancellations and restrictions from the COVID pandemic; Discussion of hiring for the position, filling position via shared services with Berkshire/Richford, or County Code Enforcement; Village to seek all options and their correlating cost per year before a final direction can be taken.
- Franchise Spectrum – Attorney Como in communication with both State and Spectrum.
- 9 Brook Street – received notice that request has moved ahead in approval process; still awaiting award/decline notification; Public notice posted.
- Electric Repair of Christmas Lights – Board consensus, not a necessary cost at this time, will revisit in future years.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION #15-21

Authorization of Clerk-Treasurer to Transfer Funds and Increase Budget Line (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by Tomazin, seconded by Alexander. Roll call vote. Alexander, Reynolds, Parmelee, Tomazin, Tornatore. -Yes. 0 - No. Carried.

REPORTS:

- Code/Fire Safety Inspector – Report reviewed by Deputy Mayor Alexander in CEO Foster absence.
- Public Works – Report reviewed by Deputy Mayor Alexander in PW Supervisor absence.
- Clerk – Revenue is down due to COVID, sales tax and clerks fees; State Aid is projected to be cut by 20%; CHIPS reimbursement received; FEMA funds from the Brook St. wall repair received, will help off-set the cost of cleaning out Slosson Creek.

BOARD COMMENTS/CONCERNS:

- Discussion of DPW Barn garage door opener options: 3 quotes, Gates, Overhead Door and Baker Garage Door or independent purchase and install by DPW staff; Further discussion needed.
- Discussion of fencing at Trout Ponds Park.

Motion by Trustee Tomazin, seconded by Trustee Reynolds to adjourn at 8:54 PM. Carried

Jessica Moore
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer