

Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Newark Valley was held Tuesday evening, **December 8th, 2020** at 6:30 PM in the Noble Room of the Municipal Building at 9 Park Street, Newark Valley.

Present were:

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

MINUTES:

Not available at this time.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Not available at this time.

BILLS:

Presented. Approved in the amount of \$34,248.53, from abstract number 26-21, 27-21, 28-21, 29-21 and 30-21 with a Motion by Trustee Parmelee, seconded by Trustee Tomazin. Trustee Reynolds abstained from signing voucher #9110330 for appraisal of 9 Brook St. Carried.

WORK IN PROGRESS:

- **Budget** – Budget public hearing scheduled for January 12th 2021; Discussion of tentative 2021-2022 budget, currently at a 1.44% increase from previous year; Discussion of increases/decreases in expenses and revenues of current year and projected upcoming year; Discussion of post-retirement health benefits and ways of funding that line item for future retirements; Discussion of this years unappropriated fund balance.
- **9 Brook Street** – work in progress; First and second appraisals are complete, waiting on the third to be completed; Review of project financing; 100% reimbursement from FEMA; Review of communication line, FEMA -> Homeland Security -> Village Staff -> Property Owners.
- **Municipal Building Windows** – no update; Jan/Feb 2021 projected time frame for Crawford & Stearns to begin.
- **Attorney** – Attorney Como unexpectedly passed away in November from COVID-19; Discussion of Attorney/Law Firms candidates to contract with going forward.
- **Code Enforcement** – New application received; CEO Foster to schedule interviews.
- **Village Office Hiring** – work in progress; Hiring of Full/Part time to be determined once 2021-2022 budget is finalized, currently budgeted for 6 full time employees; Office hopeful to begin

hiring process in January 2021 with new employee starting end of February/beginning of March, in time for the office's busiest month of the year at the front counter; Discussion of reducing open hours of the office; Discussion of subcontracting out some office tasks; Further discussion of full time vs. part time.

- **Municipal Building Cameras** – Deputy Mayor Alexander has done some research on camera options, needs to be further discussed with PW Sup. Foster for the running of transmission/powerlines within the building.
- **Building/Properties – MB Bathroom** – new flooring and creation of a cleaning supplies closet; on DPW project list; currently on hold.
- **Trout Ponds Park** – 150th anniversary next year, June 1st, 2021; Mayor Tornatore working with Historians.
- **Master Plan** – work in progress; Trustee Reynolds reviewing other localities master plans that were provided by Attorney Como before his passing; review of creation of past revisions;
- **Franchise Spectrum** – on hold until new/interim attorney is established.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION #25-21

Local Law No. 1 of the Year 2020 – Override of Tax Levy Limit (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by Tomazin, seconded by Alexander. Roll call vote. Alexander, Reynolds, Parmelee, Tomazin, Tornatore. - Yes. 0 - No.

RESOLUTION #26-21

Scheduling of Public Hearing for 2021-2022 Budget (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by Alexander, seconded by Reynolds. Roll call vote. Alexander, Reynolds, Parmelee, Tomazin, Tornatore. - Yes. 0 - No.

RESOLUTION #27-21

Authorizing Transfer of Funds from General Fund to Capital Project Fund (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by Alexander, seconded by Parmelee. Roll call vote. Alexander, Parmelee, Tomazin, Tornatore. - Yes. 0 - No. Reynolds – Abstained.

REPORTS:

- **Code/Fire Safety Inspector** – CEO Foster has completed all necessary classes to keep his certifications current/valid; 239 Form completed and submitted to County for review of 96 S. Main Street Business Permit/Site Plan; Discussion on Rewey Ave property owner variance request; Complaints of Chickens roaming free on Elm St.; Investigating a complaint of land use on Whig St.; 6 inspections completed.

- **Public Works** – MEO Seamans has his CDL permit test scheduled for this week and continues his water training; New truck has been outfitted with necessary lights and plow has been mounted, side steps to be installed in near future; Christmas trees are up on the Village Green for this years *Lighting of the Green*; Final inspections signed off on at *Annie's Place*; NYSEG related power issue at the barn has been corrected, electric at well house upgrade complete, well off generator power and running on regular supply system.
- **Planning** – Trustee Reynolds acknowledges the upcoming 239 Review of 96 S. Main St. – Seal Right Inc on the Planning Board schedule.
- **Parks** – Fitness trail complete, pending the installation of a few directional arrows. Deputy Alexander will walk with Eagle Scout Boldis once he is out of COVID quarantine; Discussion of low spots in the parks landscape and possible remedies to fill/raise them to prevent areas of standing water.

BOARD COMMENTS/CONCERNS:

- Lengthy discussion on the status and future of the 2008 DPW truck now that the new truck has been delivered and is on the road; Possible use during the winter months as a truck without a sander taking up the bed; send to auction but most auction houses are closed or are limited due to COVID restrictions; PW Supervisor to have a plan determined by next meeting.

Motion by Deputy Mayor Alexander, seconded by Trustee Tomazin to adjourn at 10:08 PM. Carried

Jessica Moore
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer