

Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Newark Valley was held Tuesday evening, **October 19th, 2021**, at 6:30 PM in the Noble Room of the Municipal Building at 9 Park Street, Newark Valley.

<u>Present were</u>	Mayor	James Tornatore
	Trustees	John Tomazin
		Scott Parmelee
	DPW Supervisor	Bill Foster
	Clerk/Treasurer	Pam Benthin

APPOINTMENT of Scott Kasmarcik to Village Board Trustee, to fulfill the term left vacant by the resignation of Trustee Michael Reynolds – See Resolution #33-22 below.

GUESTS:

- Dennis Whitmarsh of Whitmarsh Truckin’ LLC – Business Permit application. Dennis currently runs his established business out of his home, application is to use space located at 6 Whig Street as business office space, when not on the road his rig would continue to be parked at his home, not at 6 Whig. Board approves Business Permit #02-21 with Resolution #34-22.

MINUTES: Minutes were read and approved as presented from the September 14th and 27th 2021 meetings, with a motion by Trustee Parmelee, seconded by Trustee Tomazin. Carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Not available at this time.

BILLS: Presented. Approved in the amount of \$73,955.90, from abstract number 27-22, and 28-22 with a Motion by Trustee Parmelee, seconded by Trustee Tomazin.

WORK IN PROGRESS:

- **9 Brook Street** – Project moving forward, asbestos abatement has been completed, electric is off, water is off, and meter has been pulled by DPW. Demo is set to begin any day.
- **Municipal Building Windows** – Original contract has been reviewed by our attorney’s office with minor changes made. Insurance documentation from the contractor has been received, reviewed, and approved. Lengthy discussion of options for completing the rest of the windows not included in the selected group. Continued discussion regarding storm windows on all windows regardless as to what grouping they are part of.
- **Village Trustee Vacancy** – Scott Kasmarcik appointed tonight to fill the vacancy left by Michael Reynolds. Mayor Tornatore will continue scouting for candidates to fill vacancies in the Board of Trustees, Planning Board and Water Rate Committees.
- **Employee Health Insurance** – Time for the annual renewal of the Employee Health Insurance plan. Currently the Village pays 85% and the employee pays 15% of coverage cost. Cost for the current Excellus health plan has decreased this year. Currently there are 3 active employees taking part in the health plan and 1 retiree. Discussion of looking at other health plans as well as adjusting the employer/employee ratio. Due to timing and employee deductions needing to begin November 1st

the Board approves continuing with the current plan and 85/15% ratio. Discussion to continue at later date regarding other plan options.

- **Marijuana Regulation & Taxation Act (MRTA)** – Lengthy discussion regarding revenue, regulations, and safety. Board to hold a special public meeting (tentatively Dec.6th) for residents to bring their thoughts & comments to the Board. The Board will then vote at a meeting prior to the December 31st opt-in/opt-out deadline.
- **Code Fees** – Mayor has shared the initial information from the County with the Trustees, asks that discussion follows at a later date as data and information is still being evaluated at County level. Board members agree current fees should be discussed and reviewed.
- **American Rescue Plan** – Brief discussion on uses of the ARP funds. Cannot be used for any part of the window project, can be used to enable virtual access in municipal building, can be used for park improvements and increasing walkability within the Village.

NEW BUSINESS:

- RESOLUTION #33-22 Village Board Appointment – Scott Kasmarcik (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by *Parmelee*, seconded by *Tomazin*. Roll call vote. Parmelee, Tomazin, Tornatore – Yes. 0 – No.
- RESOLUTION #34-22 Approval of Business Permit – Whitmarsh Truckin LLC (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by *Tomazin*, seconded by *Kasmarcik*. Roll call vote. Parmelee, Tomazin, Tornatore, Kasmarcik – Yes. 0 – No.
- RESOLUTION #35-22 Appointment of Planning Board Members – Kasmarcik, Nedlik, Hills (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by *Tomazin*, seconded by *Parmelee*. Roll call vote. Parmelee, Tomazin, Tornatore, Kasmarcik – Yes. 0 – No.
- RESOLUTION #36-22 Increase Budget for Chips Reimbursement (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by *Tomazin*, seconded by *Parmelee*. Roll call vote. Parmelee, Tomazin, Tornatore, Kasmarcik – Yes. 0 – No.
- RESOLUTION #37-22 Authorize Mayor to Sign – Reimbursement Agreement with NYSEG (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by *Kasmarcik*, seconded by *Tomazin*. Roll call vote. Parmelee, Tomazin, Tornatore, Kasmarcik – Yes. 0 – No.
- RESOLUTION #38-22 Authorize Clerk - Budget Adjustment for 9 Brook St. Project (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by *Tomazin*, seconded by *Parmelee*. Roll call vote. Parmelee, Tomazin, Tornatore, Kasmarcik – Yes. 0 – No.

- RESOLUTION #39-22 Appointment of Library Trustee – Barbara Kamrowski (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by *Kasmarcik*, seconded by *Tomazin*. Roll call vote. Parmelee, Tomazin, Tornatore, Kasmarcik – Yes. 0 – No.
- RESOLUTION #40-22 Authorize Mayor to Sign – Grant Disbursement Agreement for Window Restoration Project (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by *Tomazin*, seconded by *Parmelee*. Roll call vote. Parmelee, Tomazin, Tornatore, Kasmarcik – Yes. 0 – No.

REPORTS:

- **Code Enforcement** – CEO Spoonhower not in attendance. Trustee Kasmarcik as newly appointed liaison to Code will meet with CEO Spoonhower.
- **Public Works** - see attached report; be aware there is a Bobcat wandering through the Village. Has been seen in the Main/Rewey/Clinton/Silk area; Supervisor Foster requests Board thoughts on sending the old John Deere and the Kubota to auction. Discussion follows including this year’s repairs on both, what attachments we currently have, and whether a zero-turn mower would be a sufficient replacement for either. Supervisor Foster to get a quote for a new Kubota that will run all of our current attachments; Backhoe is in need of repairs, oil pan, front pins/bushings, over \$500, needs Board approval – Board approves. Lengthy discussion of replacing the backhoe.
- **Mayor** - Election is in March, four seats will be up for re/election. Mayor Tornatore will not be assigning the Deputy Mayor designation until after election, if he is re-elected as Mayor Tornatore plans to run for Mayor for another term.
- **Personnel** - Job posting for Supervisor Foster’s replacement has been posted, Clerk Benthin suggests taking applications until November 1st, interview any candidates and make final decision at November 9th board meeting. Position must be filled swiftly with Supervisor Foster’s retirement set for 1/2/2022.
- **Parks** - Trustee Tomazin assigned as liaison for Parks. Discussion about pavilion roofs follows, coat them to seal leaks, tear off, repair structural issues and replace with a new metal roof. Trustee Tomazin and Kasmarcik to get quotes.
- **Youth** - Annual Youth meeting is scheduled for November 16th.
- **Library** - Clerk Benthin has informed the Library Board that they will need to process a sale of some stocks in order to continue funding day to day operations.
- **Police** - Trustee Parmelee assigned as liaison, Mayor Tornatore to forward sheriff department contacts to him tomorrow.
- **Clerk** - Office busy with an array of projects, budget and year end preparations. Received annual DMV report, DPW crew all valid and up to date. Office acting as middle man for the Lighting of the Village Green again this year, tree applications can be dropped off until November 12th.

BOARD COMMENT/CONCERNS:

- Trustee Tomazin, review of meeting with NYSEG representatives. Meeting held in Noble Room, representatives also went and toured the site at the DPW Barn/well house. As the representatives were speaking about the issue being fixed the VFD crashed, NYSEG is now continuing to monitor the situation and continue working on a true fix.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Executive session entered at the time of 9:45pm, on a motion by Trustee Parmelee, seconded by Trustee Tomazin, for the purpose of discussing Public Safety related matters. Exited executive session at 10:06pm.

Motion by Parmelee, seconded by Tornatore to adjourn at 10:07 PM. Carried

Jessica Moore
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer