

Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Newark Valley was held Tuesday evening, **January 11, 2022** at 6:30 PM in the Noble Room of the Municipal Building at 9 Park Street, Newark Valley.

<b><u>Present were</u></b>	Mayor	James Tornatore
	Trustees	John Tomazin
		Scott Parmelee
		Joe Mooney
	Clerk/Treasurer	Pam Benthin
	DPW MEO	Matt Seamans

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Public hearing opens at 6:31pm. Trustee Tomazin as head of budget committee reviews. Goal of zero increase to tax levy met, even after being informed less than 24 hours ago that the assessment calculation from the county was inaccurate by roughly \$45k dollars. The Budget Committee, with Clerk Benthin crunched numbers and made adjustments to bring the budget back to a zero increase. \$45K in assessment equals adjustments of roughly \$550 in the budget. Trustee Parmelee inquires as to what lines were adjusted? The expenses line item of Attorney's Fees was reduced, and to balance, the Sales tax revenue line was increased. No further questions from the Board or the Public. Resolution #57-22 approved with a motion by Trustee Parmelee, seconded by Trustee Mooney. Public Hearing closed at 6:37pm.

**MINUTES:** Not available at this time.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:** Not available at this time.

**BILLS:** Presented. Approved in the amount of \$52,562.07 from abstract number 38-22 and 39-22 with a Motion by Trustee Parmelee, seconded by Trustee Mooney.

**WORK IN PROGRESS:**

- **Municipal Building Windows** – Contractor, McPherson Builders is moving forward, has visited the MB to review exterior and interior of windows that are part of project. Clerk Benthin working with Beth Crawford of Crawford and Stearns regarding potential change orders for applying storms and completing exterior work on windows that are not part of current project.
- **Elections** – Caucus scheduled for January 24<sup>th</sup>. Democratic caucus to take place at 6pm with the Republican caucus following at 7pm.
- **American Rescue Plan** – Mayor Tornatore and Clerk Benthin registered to attend an ARPA training webinar series at the end of January. Trustees are invited and encouraged to view as well.
- **9 Brook Street** – With the required Title Insurance in place Clerk Benthin can start the request for reimbursement process. Even with some unexpected costs the project is still inside the projected cost parameters and will not be costing the Village and funds outside of the 100% reimbursable costs.
- **DPW – Trout Pond Pavilion** – No progress at this time. Due to current weather conditions, repair/replacement will most likely take place in the spring.

- **NYSEG damage claim/voltage fluctuation** – NYSEG has declined reimbursement request. Clerk Benthin has filed claim with Village insurance company. Will continue to pursue. Trustee Tomazin to compose letter/rebuttal to NYSEG claims adjustor’s response.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTION #57-22** Adoption of the 2022-2023 Village Budget (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by *Parmelee*, seconded by *Mooney*. Roll call vote. Parmelee, Tomazin, Tornatore, Mooney – Yes. 0 – No. Kasmarcik - Excused

**RESOLUTION #58-22** Appointment of Election Inspectors for Village General Election (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by *Mooney*, seconded by *Parmelee*. Roll call vote. Parmelee, Tomazin, Tornatore, Mooney – Yes. 0 – No. Kasmarcik - Excused

**RESOLUTION #59-22** Authorize Clerk to Transfer from General Fund to Capitol Fund and make Budget Adjustment – 9 Brook St. (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by *Kasmarcik*, seconded by *Mooney*. Roll call vote. Parmelee, Tomazin, Tornatore, Mooney – Yes. 0 – No. Kasmarcik - Excused

**REPORTS:**

- **Code Enforcement** – Newly hired CEO Martin Jerzak not in attendance. Liaison Kasmarcik excused from meeting.
- **Public Works** - see attached report of completed tasks; New hire MEO Walburn has an eventful first day with garbage, plowing and clearing of sidewalks in the dark. He came back for day 2 energetic so that’s a good sign. He shows great initiative and picks up things well, he will be a great addition to the team; Scrap metal dumpster was picked up by Weitsman’s and the other junk dumpsters at the barn have been emptied; Discussion about a scrap metal dumpster at the barn for residents to place scrap in; Discussion of electrical issues on Village Green for tree lighting, Supervisor Seamans to work with Trustee Tomazin to resolve before next years lighting.
- **Mayor** – Resident Mr. Frey has sent letter of opinion to Mayor and each Trustee. Mayor Tornatore to respond.
- **Planning** – New members are all working well together. Focus is on updating the Village Code where in concerns the new MRTA regulations. Researching an update for ATV/UTV usage on roadways as well.
- **R.E.A.P** – Next meeting tomorrow at noon, Mayor Tornatore will send meeting minutes on to Trustees.

- **Library** – Library Director Erin Chapman is currently out, Library Board President Patti Shaffer is subbing until Erin can return, due to this Library hours will be adjusted. Changes will be posted, the Village Office will share posted updates on Village FB page. Clerk Benthin has received authorization from Library Board to sell stock, as well as the necessary authorization to increase Library employees to the new NYS minimum wage.
- **Clerk** – No report. Working on Budget and Windows Project right up to meeting time. Very busy in the office, Window project taking off, 9 Brook project wrapping up, budget, end of fiscal year tasks, end-of-year payroll tasks. Month of December challenging as office was short staffed most of the month due to illnesses.

#### **BOARD COMMENTS & CONCERNS:**

- Trustee Parmelee announces that he will not be running for re-election at the March 15<sup>th</sup> election. Mayor Tornatore gives thanks and appreciation for all his time and efforts toward making the Village a better place. Scott Parmelee “you’ve been one heck of a Trustee”.

Motion by Tomazin, seconded by Mooney to adjourn at 7:32pm. Carried

Jessica Moore  
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer