

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

PRESENT:

Mayor	James Tornatore
Deputy Mayor	Scott Kasmarcik
Trustees	John Tomazin
	Joe Mooney
	Ted Hardenstine
DPW Supervisor	Matt Seamans
Clerk/Treasurer	Pam Benthin

GUESTS: Nick Cortese, Village Attorney

MINUTES: Approved as presented for the month of September 2022 with a motion by Trustee Mooney, seconded by Mayor Tornatore.

FINANCIAL

REPORT: Approved as presented. Reconciled as of September 30, 2022.

BILLS: Presented. Approved in the amount of \$14,441.80 from abstract number 28-23 and 29-23, with a Motion by Trustee Kasmarcik, seconded by Trustee Mooney.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Executive session entered at the time of 6:32pm, on a motion by Mayor Tornatore, seconded by Deputy Mayor Kasmarcik, for the purpose of discussing Litigation related matters. Exited executive session at 7:41pm

WORK IN PROGRESS:

- **DPW Tractor** – 1998 JD Tractor steering/hydraulic system has failed, estimate of \$2000 to repair. Discussion follows, see Res.#33-23 authorizing purchase of a new JD Tractor.
- **Office Copy machine** – In need of repair, parts that are needed are no longer manufactured/available due to the age of the machine. Clerk obtained multiple quotes, recommends purchasing new copier from current service company *Eastern*, as purchase includes maintenance and toner for life of machine. See Res.#35-23 authorizing purchase of new copy machine.
- **Budget Committee** – Clerk needs two Trustees for this year’s committee. Trustee Tomazin states that past practice is to have one trustee with prior budget committee experience and one trustee that has not participated previously. As Trustee Tomazin is the senior Trustee, he volunteers to be on the committee. Discussion follows, determined that Trustee Tomazin and Trustee Mooney will join Clerk Benthin for this years budget planning.
- **Code Enforcement opening** – Interview with possible applicant took place Monday, applicant has contacted the Clerk and declined the position. Will continue to seek other candidates. CEO Jerzak will continue working the Rewey Ave. violation/court proceedings until resolved. Discussion follows regarding reaching out to other Municipalities CEOs for their interest in taking on another area and future possibility of a member of DPW also working as Village Code as Bill Foster did before retiring.

- **U-Audit** – Assessment service that audits utilities(phone, internet, electric, cable, etc.) that we receive gross receipts tax/franchise fees from to make sure we are receiving correct revenue from each. See Res.#32-23 authorizing the mayor to sign agreement with U-Audit.
- **Health Insurance** – Review of annual premiums, rates increased by 8%. Clerk surveyed surrounding towns and county for municipality%/employee% allocation, determined a range of 75%/25% to 90%/10%. Current apportion is 85% village, 15% employee. Board discusses possible changes. Trustees Tomazin, Mooney, Hardenstine and Mayor Tornatore agree to continue at the current percentages, Trustee Kasmarcik would like it known that he does not support continuing at the 85/15% rate.

NEW BUSINESS:

- RESOLUTION #28-23** Approve Annual Water Audit with Inero & Co. (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by *Tomazin*, seconded by *Mooney*. Roll call vote. Hardenstine, Mooney, Kasmarcik, Tomazin, Tornatore - Yes. 0 - Excused. 0 - No.
- RESOLUTION #29-23** Transfer Funds/Budget Adjustment – 9 Brook St. Reimbursement (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by *Tomazin*, seconded by *Kasmarcik*. Roll call vote. Hardenstine, Mooney, Kasmarcik, Tomazin, Tornatore - Yes. 0 - Excused. 0 - No.
- RESOLUTION #30-23** Authorize Employee Training – Michael Walburn CDL (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by *Tomazin*, seconded by *Kasmarcik*. Roll call vote. Hardenstine, Mooney, Kasmarcik, Tomazin, Tornatore - Yes. 0 - Excused. 0 - No.
- RESOLUTION #31-23** Library Budget Adjustment – Grant monies received (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by *Tomazin*, seconded by *Hardenstine*. Roll call vote. Hardenstine, Kasmarcik, Tomazin, Tornatore, – Yes. Mooney – Abstained. 0 – No.
- RESOLUTION #32-23** Authorize Mayor to Sign – U-Audit (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by *Tomazin*, seconded by *Kasmarcik*. Roll call vote. Hardenstine, Mooney, Kasmarcik, Tomazin, Tornatore - Yes. 0 - Excused. 0 - No.
- RESOLUTION #33-23** Purchase DPW Tractor (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by *Hardenstine*, seconded by *Kasmarcik*. Roll call vote. Hardenstine, Mooney, Kasmarcik, Tomazin, Tornatore - Yes. 0 - Excused. 0 - No.
- RESOLUTION #34-23** Equipment to Auction – 1998 John Deere (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by *Tomazin*, seconded by *Mooney*. Roll call vote. Hardenstine, Mooney, Kasmarcik, Tomazin, Tornatore - Yes. 0 - Excused. 0 - No.
- RESOLUTION #35-23** Purchase Office Copy Machine (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by *Tomazin*, seconded by *Hardenstine*. Roll call vote. Hardenstine, Mooney, Kasmarcik, Tomazin, Tornatore - Yes. 0 - Excused. 0 - No.
- RESOLUTION #36-23** Increase Budget – CHIPS Reimbursement (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by *Kasmarcik*, seconded by *Mooney*. Roll call vote. Hardenstine, Mooney, Kasmarcik, Tomazin, Tornatore - Yes. 0 - Excused. 0 - No.

REPORTS:

- **Code Enforcement** – No report. Code Officer not in attendance.

- **Public Works** – see attached report. DPW staff will be taking a certification course for operation of arial and scissor lifts for when they borrow the lift truck from Barton. Supervisor Seamans and Deputy Mayor Kasmarcik attended NYCOM Public Works Training School October 3-5, both said the knowledge/information received was invaluable. Brief discussion regarding an upcoming regulation that will first require the Village to create a photographic log of every properties service line in the village. More information to come once requirements are finalized. Discussion of monthly water readings to track water loss more accurately. Discussion of the Library door entrance and the needed grinding tools required to fix it.
- **Clerk** – Received 1st CHIPS reimbursement, next submittal is due Nov. 4th. Clerk Benthin has started the preliminary budget process, currently expenditures are 10% higher than what they should be a this stage of the year but increased fuel and electric costs, plus inflation can account for that. Received a quote from *A Wild Signs* for the re-lettering of the front entrance window, scaffolding would need to be provided by the Village for the work to be completed. Deputy Mayor Kasmarcik suggests contacting Mark Randal for a quote as he has done signage work for the village on the past. Clerk Benthin has been informed that the AUD process will be changing, and the Village has been chosen to be a “guinea pig” and be one of the first to use the new process.
- **Mayor** – Review of Tioga County Ambulance service meeting. County Dispatch has committed to improving their EMS system. Currently EMS throughout the county are not getting volunteers, operational cost are rising, and insurance companies are reimbursing less, all this is requiring EMS companies to increase their contract costs to the Towns. At the meeting Mayor Tornatore suggested creating EMS Districts, NV Town Supervisor Yetter agreed. Implementation could happen as early as 2024. Discussion of the Town exceeding the 2% tax cap last year and projections of this year’s possible increases.
- **Planning Board** – No October meeting.
- **Parks** – Vandalism incident during the last weekend of September resulted in damage to turf from vehicle. DPW reported to TC Sheriff Department, violators were eventually found and required to repair the turf damage. Sheriff suggested camera placement at the well house, as that location would give a clear image of license plates and possibly drivers for any future incidents that may occur. Discussion of current camera status and quality. Trustee Tomazin volunteers his knowledge/experience to help with running any new CAT6 lines that are needed for additional cameras or upgrades.
- **Youth** – Annual meeting tentatively scheduled for Monday, November 14th. Board has further discussion regarding the updated Intermunicipal Agreement for the Summer Recreation Program that was requested by Town Supervisor Yetter. Draft currently lacking pertinent information, board tables signing of contract until changes are made and reviewed by village attorney.
- **Police** – Trustee Tomazin has secured police coverage for Halloween from 5-11pm. Office will post that 5-9pm trick or treating hours are suggested/recommended

BOARD COMMENTS & CONCERNS:

- Trustee Tomazin – CD for the TP Memorial Fund monies. Clerk to look into but reminds that if put in a CD the funds are not available for use.
- Trustee Kasmarcik – Idea of how to repair/reconfigure the Office entrance and side of building to help correct rainwater issues.

Motion by Trustee Tomazin, seconded by Deputy Mayor Kasmarcik to adjourn at 10:06pm. Carried

Jessica Moore
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer