

Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Newark Valley was held Tuesday evening, **June 20, 2023** 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 Joe Mooney
Ted Hardenstine
Jackie Wandell
DPW Supervisor Matt Seamans
Clerk/Treasurer Pam Benthin

EXCUSED: Code Officer Max Chandler

PUBLIC IN

ATTENDANCE: Sandy Kasmarcik, Darlene Bowen, Bryan Gleason, Jeffrey Czebiniak, Scott Evans, Janet & John Frieman, Ken & Marty Schneider, Sue Hills, and Jared Martin.

PUBLIC HEARING:

- *73 Whig St. Jennifer Peyton & Jakob Pepper – Site Plan Review: Peyper Fields (copy attached)*
 - Public Hearing opens at 6:31pm.
 - 20-site glamping venue with full bath house and a camp store/social area located within the main house. Each site will have a large glamping tent set up on a platform that includes a sitting area with Adirondack chairs. Sites will have electric but not water hook-ups. No RVs or personal tents will be permitted on the grounds. The 20x26 bath house, which will be on its own water service, will contain separate men’s and women’s shower rooms as well as separate restrooms. The camp store will provide basic supplies and items guests may have forgotten. With the sites being located on the Owego Creek they eventually plan to stock bait as well. Also located within the house will be a common/social area for guests to use on stormy days. Plan to market as a destination in the ‘Gateway to the Finger Lakes’, with rates more affordable than destinations in Ithaca and surrounding tourist areas.
 - Public comments include concern for privacy for the Food Pantry located next door, inspections, quiet hours, and additional traffic.
 - Saplings have been purchased to create natural barriers and Peyper Fields will also install fencing if need be; as a business they are required to be inspected by local code enforcement annually, the DOH will conduct regular inspections of the septic system and as they are located on the Owego Creek the NYS DEC will also have regular inspections; will adhere to the villages designated ‘quiet hours’; as they plan to be open for a Memorial Day – Labor Day season and primarily weekends the guest traffic should not interfere with school day traffic.
 - All appropriate paperwork and drawings have been submitted to the TC Planning for a 239-review scheduled for Wednesday, June 21.
 - Public Hearing closes at 7:04pm

MINUTES: March & April Meeting Minutes approved on a motion by *Deputy Mayor Kasmarcik*, seconded by *Trustee Mooney*.

FINANCIAL

REPORT: Approved as presented for the month of April 2023.

WORK IN PROGRESS:

- **Trout Ponds Tree Planting** – Planting completed May 22nd. TC Soil & Water has been watering. DPW mowing, trimming and fixing tubes as needed. Mayor Tornatore appreciative of the FFA/Ag Class involvement, thanks Trustee Hardenstine for connecting the TC S&W with them.

- **Lowes Hometown Grant** – Lowes will be making a public announcement of awards next Tuesday.
- **AED in MB** – Waiting on arrival of AED unit, signage and housing cabinet have arrived.
- **DPW Truck** – Clerk researching USDA grant/loan options and the use of CHIPS monies to purchase a new truck to replace the 2011 Chevy 2500. If not replaced, current truck will need repairs and new bed chain and plow harness before plowing season begins.
- **ARPA Funds** – Plan for use of \$93,000 must be made by 12/31/2024 and the funds must be spent by 12/31/2027. Public input meetings will be scheduled.
- **LCRR (Lead Copper Rule Revision)** – Currently a living, constantly evolving document. By 10/16/2024 Village must have inventory of resident water system materials. Village will be setting up a ‘portal’ so that residents can assist with gathering this information.

BILLS: Presented. Approved in the amount of \$46,002.79 from abstract number 08-24, 09-24, 10-24, 11-24, and 12-24, with a Motion by *Trustee Mooney*, seconded by *Trustee Hardenstine*.

NEW BUSINESS:

- RESOLUTION #15-24** Vacated & Appointed Trustee Position – Tomazin/Wandell (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by *Hardenstine*, seconded by *Kasmarcik*. Roll call vote. Hardenstine, Kasmarcik, Tornatore - Yes. 0 - No. Mooney - Abstained
- RESOLUTION #16-24** Authorized signer on bank accounts - Mooney (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by *Kasmarcik*, seconded by *Hardenstine*. Roll call vote. Hardenstine, Kasmarcik, Wandell, Tornatore - Yes. 0 - No. Mooney - Abstained
- RESOLUTION #17-24** Authorization for Clerk-Treasurer to open a Money Market account with NBT (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by *Kasmarcik*, seconded by *Mooney*. Roll call vote. Hardenstine, Kasmarcik, Mooney, Wandell, Tornatore - Yes. 0 - No.
- RESOLUTION #18-24** Approval of Business Permit/Site Plan – Peyper Fields (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by *Mooney*, seconded by *Hardenstine*. Roll call vote. Hardenstine, Kasmarcik, Mooney, Wandell, Tornatore - Yes. 0 - No.
- RESOLUTION #19-24** Approval of Summer Recreation Employees and Budget Adjustment (Copy attached) – adopted with a motion by *Kasmarcik*, seconded by *Hardenstine*. Roll call vote. Hardenstine, Kasmarcik, Mooney, Wandell, Tornatore - Yes. 0 - No.

REPORTS:

- **Code** – CEO not present. Currently working lawn violations and several building permits. Working with previous CEO Jerzak on the Rewey Ave court situation. Bridge St. situation has been resolved without proceeding to court.
- **Public Works** – Report attached. Reservoir passed State inspection with flying colors. Master disconnect switch installed on Backhoe. Still working on cameras for wells and reservoir. State suggesting installation of ‘smart hydrants’ for water system monitoring, would monitor temperature, flow, use at the hydrant etc. The metered hydrant located at the DPW Barn that is used by the State, Town and Fire Dept. requires an additional back flow valve per new State requirements.

- **Clerk** – Annual report submitted to State Comptroller. We are 95% of the way through the annual CPA audit, the process taking a bit longer than normal as it is being completed remotely and we are working with a new auditor. Summer Rec paperwork and new counselor employment packets. Code keeping the office busy. Deputy Clerk was focused on the 73 Whig St Site Plan deadline to County Planning. Office did have to close to the public a few days due to workload and deadlines.
- **Mayor** – Tioga Opportunities looking for a location for a satellite office in Northern Tioga. Hope Cemetery still seeking funding opportunities. Resident Doug Card became a member of the Cemetery Board, still seeking members and volunteers as current board is aging. REAP performing a county wide funding study for the Tioga County Cemetery Association.
- **Planning** – Board members Frieman and Hills will try to attend tomorrow night's County Planning 239-Review meeting. Board Chair Kasmarcik unable to attend due to schedule conflict.
- **Parks** – Trustee Hardenstine received positive feedback from the community during the use of the ball fields for evening games. Community very much enjoyed the May and June concerts at the park as well.
- **Youth** – Program to start Wednesday, July 5th and run through Thursday, July 27th
- **Library** – Summer Reading program to start soon, Director Chapman has many events planned for the kids at the Trout Ponds Park.
- **Police** – Board in need of a new liaison to work with the sheriff's department. Trustee Mooney suggests Deputy Mayor Kasmarcik as he has regular interaction with Sheriff Howard. Lots of sheriff activity in the village as of late in the Whig/Franklin area and at the Trout Ponds.
- **School Districts** – New superintendent Timothy Calice taking over August 1st. He was previously the Superintendent for the Green school district.
- **Personnel** – Annual reviews for DPW Supervisor Seamans and Clerk Treasurer Benthin have been completed.

GUESTS:

- *Matt Kistner, Northern Tioga Chamber of Commerce:* NV Resident, Chamber Board member and organizer of Farmers Market/Ice Cream Social scheduled for tomorrow night on the Village Green. Tomorrow night's event will run from approx. 5-7:30 and will be used as a gauge for future weekly events. Thanks given to the Village Office and DPW for their assistance with the event.
- *Brian Gleason, Cardinal Lanes Bowling:* Purchased the bowling alley in 2019. Seeking to have the current 'semi-dry' status of Newark Valley abolished so that he can obtain his state liquor license to sell alcoholic beverages at the bowling alley. Currently Cardinal Lanes is a BYOB establishment, which is making revenue for Mirabito, Hollenbeck's and Valley Liquor, Cardinal Lanes is losing out on approximately \$200-300 nightly revenue. Obtaining a state liquor license would also bond him in NYS, he currently carries extra insurance in case of liability. Having the 'semi-dry' status lifted would also benefit other local businesses, such as Fortunato's. To board knowledge the 'semi-dry' status was a local law enacted by the Town and whereas the Village resides within the town borders, village businesses must comply. Brian has been to the Town and was told he needed to speak to the village. Village office to research and be in touch with Mr. Gleason.
- *Ken Schneider, Village Resident:* Street light at corner of Maple and Marble still has not been fixed, Mayor Tornatore sent communication to NYSEG and has not received any response in return. Would like to know what the Village is going to do about the 'dust storm' that they have been living in since the stone and oil was put down on the road last paving season. They have been clearing and sweeping the loose gravel themselves and watering down the road to battle the road dust. Would like the Village to use the hydrants and spray

down the roads. DPW Supervisor Seamans has found a new emulsification product that will be used on this year's roads as well as those that were stoned and oiled last year. This process should rectify the dust issues.

- *Scott Evans, Village Resident:* Issued a code violation for grass/weeds. Notice was left in the mailbox of a vacant apartment, does not understand how the CEO ever expected him to receive this, as well as placing non-mail items in a mailbox is a violation of federal law. Deputy Mayor Kasmarcik will address this with the CEO. The grass/weeds in question are located at the back of the property, which is barely visible from the sidewalk, and is actually a raised bed of flowers, clearly not a violation, we do not live in an HOA. Discussion follows of why the new CEO is nit-picking residents about grass/weeds and overgrown flowerbeds but not working to rectify the real eyesores of the Village i.e., vacant properties that are overgrown, homes with porches half falling off, or roofs that have been tarped forever. Discussion of mowing at the Trout Ponds.
- *Sandy Kasmarcik, Village Resident:* Requests no comments or rebuttal to her comments. She was not in attendance at the April Board meeting but has heard the comments made. She feels this should never have been allowed to happen and the board should have shut down the tirade by Matt Tomazin. On another note, she is glad to see the board members are finally backing each other and not stabbing each other in the back.

Motion by *Deputy Mayor Kasmarcik*, seconded by *Trustee Hardenstine* to adjourn at 9:22pm. Carried

Jessica Moore
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer