

# **RUSHVILLE VILLAGE BOARD MEETING**

**February 14, 2011**

TIME: 7:00 PM

PLACE: Rushville Village Hall

PRESENT: Mayor Jon Bagley

Trustees Charles Elwell, David Field, Timothy Jabaut, and John Sawers

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Paul Chatfield, Art Rilands, Mike Pierre, Dodie Baker, Pam & Larry Brown, Greg Franklin, and Jean McCreary

RE: Calling the Meeting to Order

Mayor Bagley called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

RE: Minutes

A motion was made by Trustee Field and second by Trustee Sawers to approve the minutes from the January 10, 2011 meeting as printed. Unanimously carried.

RE: Response Letter from Congregational Church

Mayor Bagley shared with the Board that the Village received a response from the Congregational Church regarding sidewalk funding but he wished to table the item pending possible contributions from other organizations.

RE: Response from Congressman Tom Reid

Mayor Bagley shared he sent a letter to Congressman Tom Reid stressing the need for him to vote against repealing the mortgage tax deduction. Congressman Reid responded stating he too agrees it is a necessary deduction and will be voting against such bill if it reaches the house floor.

RE: Public Works Supervisor – Art Rilands

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Brief discussion took place regarding the school water tower.

RE: Fire Chief – Jim Santee

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Fire Chief Jim Santee shared with the Board that they are currently housing Crystal Beach's fire truck because they are getting a new floor put in their fire house. He also shared that he wrote a grant application and was awarded \$25,000 in funding to go towards turn-out gear. Fire Chief Santee reviewed his budget proposal with the Board and explained the need for purchasing new radios and pagers due to the fact Ontario County is switching from low band broadcasting to high band. Lastly Fire Chief Santee shared that there has been discussion among the fire department members that they would like to ask the Village to install air conditioning in the building. At the time the building was built the cost was \$11,000 but the previous administration decided not to have it installed. He will get quotes to install central air. Mayor Bagley and the Board thanked Fire Chief Santee for his efforts and for taking the time to write the grant application.

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RE: Reading Center Director – Dodie Baker

Reading Center Director Dodie Baker shared that she is almost ready to open! The computers are in and networked and the new lights are installed. She plans to open Monday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, President's Day. Students will be off of school that week and she feels it will encourage children and teens to visit the reading center. Programs are getting laid out and people of all ages in the community have showed a huge interest in volunteering and are excited about the re-opening of the reading center

RE: Bonding the Clerk-Treasurer

A motion was made by Trustee Sawers and seconded by Trustee Jabaut to renew the \$30,000 surety bond for a period of one (1) year for the Village Clerk-Treasurer at a cost of \$100. Unanimously carried.

RE: Water Improvement Project

Paul Chatfield of Chatfield Engineers reviewed the water project bids with the Board and explained they were approximately \$600,000 over the estimated project budget. Even though the bids were higher than anticipated he is confident in saying they were realistic bids because they was only 4-6% difference between them all. Engineer Chatfield continued by explaining the discrepancies between the estimate and the bids and reviewing the detailed letter he previously submitted. He also reviewed the potential cost savings and the updated timeline. Chatfield stated the project can still start this year, he is estimating in August (late summer). Due to the outcome of the bids, Chatfield shared he is taking over as project manager and will thoroughly look at the cost savings measurers and discuss them with the Village. To continue with the project as designed the Village will need to go back to Rural Development for supplemental funding. The Village does have 60 days to award or reject the bids so no decision has to be made immediately.

Mayor Bagley elaborated on Chatfield's statements explaining that all costs are being examined and he briefly reviewed the items that were left out of the project estimate. Trustee Elwell thanked Chatfield for all the information he provided. Mayor Bagley continued stating he will be distributing any and all materials he receives to the Board members that will help in the decision making process. All avenues will be explored and he will try to keep the board educated on all the options. Mayor Bagley reviewed possible water rates if they decided to move forward with a project cost estimate of \$2.4 million. The Board was asked to thoroughly look through the letter provided by Chatfield and be ready to make a decision at the next meeting. Further discussion took place regarding the operation and maintenance costs and Chatfield will gather data from the Town of Hector on their facility costs.

Shale Beach Drive resident Jean McCreary asked the Board to confirm if a decision would be made at the next meeting? Mayor Bagley said yes they have to either reject or accept the bids. Ms. McCreary stated the neighbors of the water pump station property would like to have their engineer meet with Chatfield to

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discuss cost saving measurers and would like the opportunity to have their input and suggestions heard by the Board. Mayor Bagley stated that 2 professional engineers are already looking at the project and he believes he has surrounded himself with intelligent and experienced people and he does not want to further complicate things with a third party engineer. He has his hands full with the situation as is. Ms. McCreary stated she understand he has his hands full but the neighbors still want to share their thoughts and have their ideas heard and received by the Board. Mayor Bagley respectfully rejected Ms. McCreary's offer to hear the neighbor's thoughts and ideas and her offer to have their engineer meet with Chatfield. Ms. McCreary and Greg Franklin exited the meeting room.

RE: Sidewalks

Mayor Bagley reviewed with the Board the plan to use the Middlesex tax reimbursement money to install sidewalks in the Village. They discussed the cost to install sidewalks and what necessary equipment would need to be purchased. PWS Art Rilands stated that an approximate figure for of 100 feet of sidewalks would be \$1,500-\$2,000.

Discussion continued relating to the proposal to remove money from the Cemetery investments and use it towards other purposes. Trustee Field stated he thinks the money should be left alone. He has received this response from several residents. Trustee Elwell disagreed with Trustee Field stating he thinks that some of the Cemetery money could be used to better the community. Mayor Bagley shared with Trustee Field and the other Board members the origin of the cemetery land and the first donated monies. His apartment house was previously owned by Judson Jones and through his deed he has copies of Mr. Jones' will. Mr. Jones was the individual who donated the land for the cemetery and left the first sum of money to care for the cemetery. Mr. Jones' and the rest of his family were very giving people and he feels if Mr. Jones' was here today, he would approve of the money being used toward the betterment of the community. Trustee Field stated he still thinks the money should stay with the Cemetery. Mayor Bagley explained the Cemetery is overfunded and what will it look like in 10 years. What will the Cemetery do with \$2.5 million? Further discussion took place, and Trustee Field continued to disagree with the others. Trustee Elwell stated he feels \$200,000 is an appropriate figure to ask to be removed. Trustee Sawers asked if it was ever decided upon or written down exactly what is planned for the money. What will the Board do with it if it is released? What will be accomplished? Mayor Bagley stated his brief breakdown would be \$100,000 for sidewalks, \$50,000 for the reading center and \$50,000 for a community facility. Trustee Elwell stated he is in favor of pursuing the release of the money and he would like to make a motion to move forward with a figure of \$200,000.

A motion was made by Trustee Elwell and seconded by Trustee Jabaut to instruct Attorney Kenyon to move forward with seeking the release of \$200,000 from the Cemetery fund. Roll call: Bagley – Aye, Elwell – Aye, Field – Nay, Jabaut – Aye, Sawers – Aye. The motion was carried with four (4) ayes.

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RE: Budget Preparation

Discussion took place regarding the submitted proposals by the Department Heads. Mayor Bagley stated he will meet with everyone once Art prepares his budget. He asked that they continue to look over the current material provided.

RE: Executive Session - Employee Reviews

A motion was made by Trustee Jabaut and seconded by Trustee Sawers to enter into executive session at 8:02pm to discuss employee reviews. Unanimously carried.

The Board returned from executive session at 9:00pm.

RE: Bills

A motion was made by Trustee Field and seconded by Trustee Sawers to authorize payment of the general bills in amount of \$9,578.88, noting \$1,200.00 had already received payment due either to prior authorization or a due date prior to the board meeting. Unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Elwell and seconded by Trustee Jabaut to authorize payment of the capital project bills in amount of \$6,302.65. No prior payments were made. Unanimously carried.

No cemetery bills were submitted for payment.

A motion was made by Trustee Jabaut and seconded by Trustee Elwell to authorize payment of the water bills in amount of \$3,865.30. No prior payments were made. Unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Sawers and seconded by Trustee Field to authorize payment of the sewer bills in the amount of \$5,806.16. No prior payments were made. Unanimously carried.

RE: Adjournment

A motion was made by Trustee Field and seconded by Trustee Elwell to adjourn the meeting at 9:07pm. Unanimously carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Gruschow  
Clerk-Treasurer