

THE RUSHVILLE VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

February 14, 2022

DATE: 2/14/22

TIME: 7:00pm

PLACE: The Rushville Village Hall

PRESENT: Mayor Dave LeClair, Trustee Doug Rigby, Trustee Karen Gorton, Trustee Mark Fargo, Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman, Clerk Jeannie Kesel, Code Officer Tim Pagel, DPW Art Rilands, Reading Center Director Dodie Baker

Approximately 12 people attended the meeting (sign in sheet available at the Village Office)

The Mayor called the Board Meeting to order at 7:00 pm

RE: Salute to the Flag:

The Mayor asked everyone to rise and join in the Pledge to the Flag.

RE: Approval of Minutes:

The Mayor asked the Trustees if they had any corrections to the board minutes from the January 10, 2022 meeting. Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman made a motion to approve the January 10, 2022 minutes. Trustee Mark Fargo made a 2nd to the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

RE: Mayor's Report

Mayor Dave LeClair gave his Mayor's report as follows:

- The Mayor reminded the Board Members of the Sewer Study that was presented to the Board by Chuck Bastian from Bernard P. Donegan's office at the May 2021 meeting. The study concludes that by budget year 2027-2028 the ending fund balance would be negative (\$40,237.00) It is clear that a rate adjustment is needed. The first-year increase to property owners will be an additional \$30 per sewer unit/per quarter up from the current charge typically \$110 per sewer unit/per quarter. The Mayor proposes the Village Board adjust the rate effective July 1, 2022. The Mayor reminded the Board that MRB Engineering provided a quote in the amount of \$15,000 to develop an update to our existing local sewer law. He suggested that the Board give serious consideration to this proposal in the next budget cycle.
- At last month's meeting the Board showed some interest in reducing the rate at the bulk water station after receiving a complaint. The new rate is \$10.50 effective January 1, 2022. The prior rate was \$8.25. A resolution is included in the Board packets which would adjust the bulk water rate to \$9.25.
- Sewer charge waiver for vacant apartments. You will recall that Randy and Patti Green requested relief from the .8-unit charge for their vacant apartment. The tenant, their aunt, was moved to a nursing home about a year ago. Past practice on a couple of occasions was done with a motion at a Board meeting. I propose we take a more restrictive approach and suggest we require the attached notarized statement from the property owner. The building must be owner occupied to qualify. Note, the Village has only had 2-3 similar requests over the past 10 years. Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman suggested that the property owner obtain a permit for this exemption. The Board members discussed this

THE RUSHVILLE VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

February 14, 2022

option and felt that a permit was not necessary. The Board reviewed the Affidavit of Sewer Charge Exemption as submitted including modifications from Attorney, Tom Blair and Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman. The Board approved the use of the Affidavit of Sewer Charge Exemption form.

- Capital Reserve Fund – You will recall that the budget adopted last year included \$20,000 for the purpose of setting up a reserve fund for the purchase of a fire truck in 3-5 years. I would like to complete this process before the new budget is adopted so that the current budget year funds can be allocated. This type of reserve fund is authorized by General Municipal Law section 6. According to Attorney, Tom Blair, he suggested the Village create a capital improvement/piece of equipment without specific identification of the exact improvement/piece of equipment. This is NOT subject to permissive at account creation; however, the disbursement of the funds WOULD be subject to permissive referendum – unless the bonding requirement would otherwise be less than 5 years. A resolution is included in your packets.
- Village Park – Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman, Village Staff, MRB and myself participated in a Zoom meeting with Kathleen McIsaac from NYS Parks to see if our Village Park is a good grant candidate. More information will be provided to the Board as the Village gets state feed-back.
- Budget workshops – a preliminary draft budget will be provided at the March 14th meeting.
- Comprehensive Plan – The Steering Committee met on January 18th and reviewed the survey being proposed that will be sent to Village property owners, tenants, and business owners. The next meeting is scheduled at the firehouse on February 15th at 6:30pm. All Board members are encouraged to attend. The Village will need to begin thinking about a zoning update after completion of the Comprehensive Plan and the associated cost. There will be a public Forum on March 1, from 7-9pm at the Fire House.

RE: Deputy Mayor's Report

- Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman Yates County Planning Board update - Special Use Permits to rehab some existing buildings in the Town of Starkey
- Minor subdivision in the Town of Milo for a place of worship
- Town of Benton Tomion's is changing hands (bought or leased), you pick will still be there. Issued a special use permit for selling feed.
- Penn Yan – food truck, Hangry Bickering
- Event and Auction House on 364 that needed a variance
- Municipal Garbage – It was discussed about possibly looking into municipal garbage pickup for the Village. There is noise that the dump in Flint might be closing. Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman suggested the Village look into municipal garbage pickup for the whole Village before this issue becomes a reality. The Mayor asked if this was discussed in the past. Tim Pagel, code officer, said it was looked into about a year ago. Casella and Cardinal were the only companies that responded. Cardinal said for \$30,000 they would supply a trash bin and a recycle bin for each resident on the Yates County side. It would cost each resident about \$200.00 per year for municipal pickup. Cardinal refused to bid this because they said they would lose business. They currently have the majority of our Yates County residents as customers. Currently, individual trash pickup is \$40-\$45 per month. Trustee Karen Gorton asked if property owners would be able to opt out of this service. Tim Pagel said Cardinal said the numbers would have to be re-worked if all residents did not opt in for

THE RUSHVILLE VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

February 14, 2022

- garbage pickup. It would make it difficult to have a system if residents opt out. Tim Pagel asked if the Town of Gorham was considering closing their transfer station. The Mayor has spoken with Fred Lightfoote, Supervisor for the Town of Gorham and this is a possibility in the future. The Mayor asked if Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman would research this and come back to a future meeting with some alternatives.
- NYCOM has a spot on their website for classifieds. The Village could use it for potential applicants when Mike and Art retire. Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman thought the Village might use Gorham. The Mayor said that is a possibility if Mike and Art were both to retire at once.
 - De-Escalation Training – scheduled for April 7 at the Fire House. Trustee Mark Fargo (who has gone through the training) gave a brief explanation of what the training consists of. About an hour long put on by the Sherriff's Department. The Mayor wanted to offer it to all of our government officials.

RE: Public Works Supervisor:

Streets:

- We've plowed and sanded a lot lately. Sand and salt usage is still below other years.

Sewer:

- Flows are ok for now. All of the samples have been in compliance.

Water:

- Tested for quarterly PFOS this month. Have not received the test results. All other test samples were ok. We have re-build kits for the older water meters. A few meters have been rebuilt. Very few problems with frozen water this year.
- Spoke with Jeff Borsman from MRB regarding the HABS Grant. The study indicates the existing Water Plant building will not be big enough in the future. The DE filters are good enough. Hydrogen peroxide UV system would kill pathogens immediately. Jeff has not been able to obtain pricing just yet.

Village Hall:

- The Village received \$5,000 from the NYSERTA Grant. It will be used for the LED bulb replacement. I've started replacing bulbs in the office. The front steps are in bad shape. They will need to be replaced. I will try to patch them later this week. Money will be put in the budget for new steps.

Barn:

- Started cleaning and painting picnic tables. Also, have been cleaning the barn.

RE: Fire Report:

- No report.

THE RUSHVILLE VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

February 14, 2022

RE: Reading Center Director:

- The Library has opened 4 more hours a week as of February 1st. Tuesday hours 9am – 1pm. Dawn LeMay will work those hours. Dodie will help at the desk once a month while Dawn leads the Wee Wonder Story time.
- Starting February 22nd, the library will have a monthly Story time hour from 10am-11am. It will be the last Tuesday of every month. All children are welcome. Adults and children over the age of 2 are required to wear masks, please.
- An Adult Book Club starts Saturday, February 26th at the library from 1-2pm. It will run 4 consecutive Saturdays. We are reading “The Plot” by Jean Hanff Korelitz. The club will also discuss and choose the next book. Joey LeClair will be running the club. Thank you, Joey.
- The library also has brand new Children’s and Young Adult books come in each month.
- The library will have an Audio rotating collection on the shelves Wednesday, February 23rd. Come check some out!
- The 50% matching grant is secured by STLS through the American Recovery Plan Act. The library used the Clark donation for the library’s share of the match. The library will purchase 4 laptops and a color printer.
- Dodie and Dawn are starting to weed out books to make room for new ones and to get ready to barcode all the books at the library. This will happen in the spring. The library is waiting for NY State to approve Gorham Free Libraries boundaries within the Marcus Whitman School district. When this happens, the library can move forward with its Charter.
- Thank you for always supporting the library.

RE: Code Enforcement officer:

- Inspection of projects in progress
- Issue Permits
- Working on 1203 Report
- FEMA Flood Plain Plan is being updated. The flood plain will probably be lowered 4-5 feet
- Obtaining required training through webinars

RE: Resolution 4-2022 Revise Bulk Station Water Rates and Amend the Village Budget Regarding the Water Fund Accordingly Declaring Used Office Chairs and Tables as Unwanted and Surplus:

A couple of the Board Members had a few concerns on the new rate \$10.50/1,000 gallons. The old rate of \$8.25 generated approximately \$15,675 per year. MRB’s suggested rate of \$10.50 would generate approximately \$19,950 per year. If the rate is adjusted to \$9.25 it would generate approximately \$17,575 per year.

A motion to revise the Bulk Station water rates to \$9.25 per 1,000 gallons was made by Trustee Mark Fargo and seconded by Trustee Karen Gorton

There was a rollcall vote –

Trustee Doug Rigby	Yes
Trustee Karen Gorton	Yes

THE RUSHVILLE VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

February 14, 2022

Trustee Mark Fargo	Yes
Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman	Yes
Mayor David LeClair	Yes

The motion was unanimously carried.

RE: Resolution 5-2022 Amending the Sewer Unit Charge for the Village of Rushville from \$110 per Quarter to \$140 per Quarter

The Village sewer unit charge will be amended to \$140 per quarter effective July 1, 2022 with the first billing to be October 1, 2022. Trustee Mark Fargo felt this resolution is prudent for the financial stability of the Village.

A motion to amend the sewer unit charge for the Village of Rushville from \$110 per quarter to \$140 per quarter was made by Trustee Doug Rigby and seconded by Trustee Karen Gorton.

There was a rollcall vote –

Trustee Doug Rigby	Yes
Trustee Karen Gorton	Yes
Trustee Mark Fargo	Yes
Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman	Yes
Mayor David LeClair	Yes

The motion was unanimously carried.

RE: Resolution 6-2022 to Revise Water and Sewer Rates for the Marcus Whitman School District:

The District water rate shall be \$8.16 per 1000 gallons, effective July 1, 2022 with the first billing to be October 1, 2022. The District sewer rate shall be \$140 per unit, effective July 1, 2022, with the first billing to be October 1, 2022.

A motion was made by Trustee Doug Rigby and a 2nd was made by Trustee Karen Gorton to revise water and sewer rates for the Marcus Whitman School District.

There was a rollcall vote –

Trustee Doug Rigby	Yes
Trustee Karen Gorton	Yes
Trustee Mark Fargo	Yes
Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman	Yes
Mayor David LeClair	Yes

The motion was unanimously carried.

THE RUSHVILLE VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

February 14, 2022

RE: Resolution 7-2022 to Establish a Capital Reserve Fund to Finance the Purchase of Equipment:

The Mayor, David LeClair, reminded the Board that this was talked about in the April 12, 2021 meeting minutes. Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman asked if there was an update accounting for the Fire Department expenses. Art said that he and Jeannie put together a spreadsheet and Chandra could stop by the Village Hall tomorrow to pick up a copy.

A motion was made by Trustee Mark Fargo and a 2nd was made by Trustee Doug Rigby to establish a capital reserve fund to finance the purchase of equipment.

There was a rollcall vote –

Trustee Doug Rigby	Yes
Trustee Karen Gorton	Yes
Trustee Mark Fargo	Yes
Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman	Yes
Mayor David LeClair	Yes

The motion was unanimously carried.

RE: Clerk:

- Jeannie presented to the Board the Town of Potter 2022 Fire Protection Agreement
- The Mayor let the Board know that he was the Treasurer of the Fire Department. Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman suggested that someone else than the Mayor sign this agreement, due to a possible conflict of interest since the Mayor is the Treasurer of the Fire Department. It was decided that Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman would sign this agreement.
- A motion to direct the Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman to sign the Agreement for Fire Protection service between the Town of Potter and the Village of Rushville was made by Trustee Mark Fargo and seconded by Trustee Doug Rigby.

There was a rollcall vote –

Trustee Doug Rigby	Yes
Trustee Karen Gorton	Yes
Trustee Mark Fargo	Yes
Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman	Yes
Mayor David LeClair	Abstained

The motion carried.

- Jeannie presented Budget Transfers. Trustee Karen Gorton asked if the Month Date Report for next meeting would highlight the accounts that adjustments were made.

THE RUSHVILLE VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

February 14, 2022

A motion to accept the Budget Transfers was made by Trustee Doug Rigby and seconded by Trustee Karen Gorton.

There was a rollcall vote –

Trustee Doug Rigby	Yes
Trustee Karen Gorton	Yes
Trustee Mark Fargo	Yes
Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman	Yes
Mayor David LeClair	Yes

The motion was unanimously carried.

RE: Bills:

A motion was made by Trustee Doug Rigby and seconded by Trustee Mark Fargo to authorize payment of the General bills in the amount of \$16,675.20. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman and seconded by Trustee Doug Rigby to authorize payment of the Cemetery in the amount of \$110.08. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Doug Rigby and seconded by Trustee Karen Gorton to authorize payment of the Water bills in the amount of \$11,021.08. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman and seconded by Trustee Doug Rigby to authorize the payment of the Sewer bills in the amount of \$6,857.39. The motion was unanimously carried.

RE: Public Comments:

- No Public Comments.

A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Mark Fargo. A 2nd was received from Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman. The motion was unanimously passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannie Kesel, Clerk/Treasurer

THE RUSHVILLE VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
February 14, 2022