

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BALLSTON SPA, NY held on January 9, 2023.

Present: Mayor Rossi, Trustee Kormos, Trustee Baskin, Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, Trustee Raymond, Village Clerk O'Connor, Treasurer Bartlett, Village Administrator Moskowitz Attorney Buettner

1) Call to Order

2) Pledge to the Flag

3) Minutes Approval

a) Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez that the minutes of the 11/28/22 meeting be approved.

Ayes All

b) Motion made by Trustee Kormos, seconded by Trustee Baskin that the minutes of the 12/12/22 meeting be approved.

Ayes All

4) Mayor Announcements

The Mayor will post a "State of the Village" address on YouTube, and possibly Facebook later this week.

5) Liaison Reports

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez noted that Chocolate Fest, a BSBPA event will be held on 2/3 from 4:00pm to 8:00pm.

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez reported that the Fire Dept. responded to 494 calls last year, including 4 on Christmas Eve and r on Christmas day.

The Dept. is working with the grant writer for a grant to possibly get an air fill station at Union Fire Co. #1.

Trustee Kormos stated that the Library received a \$100,000.00 grant from the Alfred Z. Solomon Charitable Trust. The funds will be put towards the Library renovations.

Trustee Baskin noted that the Committee on the Arts is talking about collaborating with the Library on a craft lending space and craft classes.

Trustee Baskin announced there is an opening on the Committee if anyone would like to apply.

A survey on Wiswall Park was sent out by the Park & Tree Board, and Trustee Baskin said 150 have been completed so far.

Trustee Raymond noted that all of the new street signs have been installed.

Trustee Raymond reminded everyone that basketball hoops need to be removed from the street for the winter.

6) Treasurer's Report (attached)

7) Presentation

a) Comprehensive Plan (John Behan – Behan Planning)

Mr. Behan presented an overview of the plan.

8) Old Business*

a) Comp. Plan Next Steps (Mayor Rossi, John Behan, & Attorney Buettner) (10 Minutes)

Attorney Buettner explained the process and noted that copies of the plan will be available on the Village website, in the Village office and the Library.

b) Church Ave. Crosswalk (Mayor Rossi) (5 Minutes)

Trustee Raymond said the possible location for crosswalks would be in the vicinity of Trumbull Ave. and Rosewood Ct., and possibly at Doubleday Woods.

Mayor Rossi added that we need clarification as to whether or not the sidewalk is a Village right-of-way.

c) CDTC UPWP Grant/Zoning Amendments (Mayor Rossi) (5 Minutes)

Mayor Rossi spoke about the issues regarding CDTC, saying that they tend to try to drive the decisions, causing delays.

Trustee Kormos said she spoke with several communities who did not experience that issue.

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez wants to be sure that we emphasize our goals; everything should stem from our communities' desires.

Trustee Baskin noted we need to go in with our eyes wide open.

Trustee Raymond added we are aware the process will be lengthy, and we should not pass up money.

d) Accessory Dwelling Units (Trustee Kormos) (5 Minutes)

Trustee Kormos would like to allow Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU's) in owner occupied housing as a way to provide affordable housing.

Mayor Rossi brought up concerns that ADU's could allow for short term rentals such as Airbnb and Vrbo.

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez thinks this matter should be addressed by the group doing the zoning amendments, noting ADU's put pressure on communities that were not designed to have high density.

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez also expressed concern about the additional parking space needs that ADU's will create and suggested it may be worth looking into expanding the R2 district rather than R1.

e) Ethics Code (Trustee Baskin), Sidewalk Code (Mayor Rossi & Trustee Baskin), & Parks Code (Mayor Rossi) (15 Minutes -- ~5 Minutes Per Code)

Trustee Baskin said the sidewalk code is ready for the next steps, we will need it ready before spring and suggested a special meeting on the subject.

Trustee Baskin would also like to set a special meeting on the Ethics Code.

Mayor Rossi noted that the parks code is important due to safety concerns.

9) New Business*

a) Discharges to Street (Mayor Rossi) (5 Minutes)

Attorney Buettner spoke about our code, the which is unclear regarding the legality of water discharge into street.

Mayor Rossi noted that in the winter, water that discharges into the street freezes, creating a safety issue.

b) Water Meter Issues (Mayor Rossi & Administrator Moskowitz) (5 Minutes)

Administrator Moskowitz stated 15 letters were sent out to people who have not given an accurate water meter reading in years. Village code gives the Village the right to go into someone's house and read the meter. If access to the meter is not granted, there is a penalty assessed.

Trustee Kormos suggested raising that fee from \$200.00 to \$500.00 and possibly raising the fee for non reads as well.

Mayor Rossi noted that the fees are an administrative nightmare.

Trustee Kormos feels we should look into radio readers and said there is grant money for that.

The Board discussed a deadline of April 1st for homeowners to address their situations.

c) Police/Court Building & DPW Building - General Overview (Mayor Rossi) (10 Minutes)

Mayor Rossi noted that the old Napa building, and the Community Emergency Corps building (CEC) were looked at. The Napa building will require a lot of work, and the CEC is only about 1,200 square larger than their current space.

Mayor Rossi will put together a Mayor's Advisory Group to find possible locations, decide what is feasible and estimate costs.

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez agreed.

Trustee Raymond agreed but noted that his could also be achieved with a good realtor. suggested a realtor.

Trustee Kormos suggested following the process that the Library took.

Trustee Baskin wants to form an official Village committee for this.

Trustee Kormos suggested having the Court meet where Village meetings are held, in order to be more financially efficient.

* - Due to the number of items reflected in Old Business and New Business in this meeting, the times reflected are estimates of the amount of time each subject should be allotted for the purpose of expediency. The Presiding Officer will respectfully attempt to limit discussion to these timeframes and will recommend any further discussion either continue at the next meeting or through electronic mail or other correspondence if further discussion is necessary.

d) Budget Development Process (Trustee Baskin) (10 Minutes)

Trustee Baskin said the budget process was smooth last year and thinks we should do something similar this year.

Trustee Kormos agreed.

e) Department Head Annual Reports (Trustee Baskin) (5 Minutes)

Mayor Rossi said the reports will be done soon.

10) Public Comment (5-Minute Limit per Speaker)

Anna Stanko, 32 Kent Street spoke about the Police and Court building search and noted that Rory O'Connor and Ron Murphy would be willing to help out.

Ms. Stanko questioned the motion regarding putting the Mayor's posts on the Village Facebook page, asking if the Trustees will be doing the same; this seems like one member of the Board is being picked on.

Gina Marozzi of 10 Old Glory Lane asked Trustee Kormos why she attends Zoning and Planning meetings even though she's been advised by several Attorney's and Mayor's that it's not a good idea.

Regarding ADU's, Ms. Marozzi, asked about Trustee Kormos suggestion that the owners of illegally built ADU's be given a grace period.

Ms. Marozzi noted these illegally built structures have not been inspected, do not have a C/O and are not being taxed.

Christine Fitzpatrick, 31 Chapman Street thanked the Comprehensive Plan Committee and noted she is happy that the meter issues are being addressed.

Jared Iacolucci of 24 Chapman Street echoed Ms. Fitzpatrick's statement about the Comprehensive Plan.

11) Board Comments, Questions, and Concerns

Trustee Kormos stated she will not give up her right as a citizen to attend Zoning and Planning meetings.

Regarding illegal ADU's, Trustee Kormos said it is not her goal to punish people, the dwellings should be inspected by the Building Inspector and reassessed.

12) Agenda Items for Consideration

a) Motion made by Trustee Raymond, seconded by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez that the attached budget transfers be approved. (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

b) Motion made by Trustee Kormos, seconded by Trustee Baskin that the Police Dept. be authorized expend the amount of \$6,595.00 for an overhead door to be furnished and installed. (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

c) Motion made by Trustee Raymond, seconded by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez that the attached list of equipment and vehicles be deemed surplus, and that the DPW may pursue the sale of such equipment through direct sale and/or auction. (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

d) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Kormos to approve the sale or trade - in of the 2000 Hyundai HL-740 Wheel loader to United Construction & Forestry (John Deere) of Clifton Park at a price of \$20,000.00. (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

e) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez seconded by Trustee Raymond to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign four contracts between the Town of Milton and the Village of Ballston Spa for the period January 1, 2023, to December 31, 2023, including a Fuel Agreement and agreements whereby the Town of Milton will allocate to the Village the following amounts: i) Ballston Spa Public Library - \$41,000.00; ii) Ballston Spa Pool - \$16,000.00; and iii) Various Celebrations - \$4,000.00. (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Trustee Kormos wants to see an increase for the Pool and Library and noted that Celebrations doubled.

Mayor Rossi explained that Supervisor Ostrander actually wanted to decrease the Pool and Library funds due to their own budget concerns. Supervisor Ostrander was gracious and allowed us to remain stable. Celebrations was increased due to more events.

Trustee Kormos feels the other funds should have been increased rather than celebrations.

Trustee Baskin agreed.

Ayes All

f) Motion made by Trustee Raymond, seconded by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez to approve the expenditure for replacement of DPW Dump Truck #3's transmission (1993 Ford L8000) by Atlantic Detroit Diesel-Allison in Latham for a price of \$6,152.23. (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

g) Motion made by Trustee _____ n/a _____, seconded by Trustee _____ n/a _____ to require applicants to the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals to provide all required and

requested materials in a computer readable PDF format and for those boards to provide a copy of the application and required and requested materials as attachments to the online agenda posted on the Village website. (Requested by Trustee Kormos)

Motion withdrawn due to it already being a state law.

h) Motion made by Trustee Kormos, seconded by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez authorizing the Village of Ballston Spa Public Library to spend \$2,679.00 related to completion of a pre-construction inspection of the Library building by Ambient Environmental, Inc. (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

i) Motion made by Trustee Kormos, seconded by Trustee Raymond to raise the fee for refusal to allow DPW to read meter from \$200 to \$500 per meter reading cycle. (Requested by Trustee Kormos)

Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Kormos that the motion be tabled.

Ayes All

j) Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee Kormos that the following addition and clarification will be made to the Rules of Procedure: "All motions from the Trustees and Mayor must be shared with all Board members no later than noon on the Thursday before the Board of Trustees meeting. Motions will be placed in the 'Agenda Items for Consideration' section of the Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda in the order that they were submitted to the entire Board of Trustees. No more than two motions per board member that were not submitted by the Thursday noon deadline will be considered for a vote at the subsequent board meeting. Any motions submitted after the Thursday deadline will be placed in the 'Other Business' section of the agenda. Motions submitted prior to the Thursday deadline can be withdrawn or edited by the original author for the published agenda prior to the Friday at noon agenda deadline and can be amended at the board meeting without it being considered a new motion." (Requested by Trustee Baskin)

Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez to table the motion with the understanding that we are all going to get our motions, even if they're drafts, out by Thursday.

Ayes All

k) Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee Kormos that all social media communications concerning Village business will be posted on the official Village of Ballston Spa Facebook page. These include but are not limited to postings concerning Village news, updates and Village-related current events posted on the official Facebook page of Mayor Frank Rossi. Posting on the official Village Facebook page will take place within 24 hours of posting on the Mayor Frank Rossi Facebook page, minus any political commentary. (Requested by Trustee Baskin)

Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Mayor Rossi to table the motion and continue discussion on revising what goes on a page and who does it.

Ayes All

12) Other Business

- a) The Board discussed improving the wi-fi and internet in the Village Office and the Library.
- b) Trustee Kormos would like the Board to review the CDTA scope of work.

13) Executive Session (If Needed)

There was no executive session.

14) Adjournment/Voucher Audit:

Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Baskin, that the attached vouchers be audited, and the meeting adjourned at 10:05pm.

General Fund	\$ 777,914.03
Sewer Relevy	7,742.44
Library Fund	12,223.27
Trust & Agency	<u>967.71</u>
Total	\$ 798,847.45

Ayes All

Respectfully Submitted,

Teri L. O'Connor
Village Clerk