

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BALLSTON SPA, NY held on
January 23, 2023

Present: Mayor Rossi, Trustee Baskin, Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, Trustee Raymond, Village Clerk O'Connor, Treasurer Bartlett, Attorney Bitter (exited meeting at 7:23pm), Attorney Buettner (joined meeting at 7:23pm)

Absent: Trustee Kormos

1) Call to Order

2) Pledge to the Flag

3) Minutes

a) Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez that the minutes of the 1/9/23 meeting be approved.

Ayes All

4) Mayor Announcements

a) The Mayor will present the State of the Village report soon.

b) Mayor Rossi thanked our DPW for doing a good job with the storm and The Town of Milton for handling our Colonial Hills duties.

5) Liaison Reports

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez reported that the Arts Committee will have 1 business and 1 creative meeting a month.

Trustee Baskin noted that Captain and the Wellness Express have been seeing an increase in their programs.

Trustee Baskin said the Park & Tree Board is working on a tree guide for the DPW.

Trustee Raymond noted the DPW had a busy day due to the weather.

6) Treasurer's Report (attached)

7) Presentation

There were none.

8) Old Business

a) Comprehensive Plan – Referrals/Timeline (Mayor Rossi)

Mayor Rossi will be sending the draft report to the Zoning and Planning Boards, Historic District Commission and the public for any ideas or comments they may have.

b) CDTA (Mayor Rossi)

Mayor Rossi spoke with a representative from CDTA about signage for the crosswalk that will go across Church Ave. from Trumbull Ave, to Rosewood Ct.

Possible bus shelter locations and bump outs were also discussed.

c) Budget Calendar (Mayor Rossi/Treasurer Bartlett) (attached)

Trustee Raymond wants to see an analysis of separating water revenue from the general fund and would like to have the water feasibility study available for budget workshops.

Mayor Rossi noted that every \$18,000 taken out of general revenue will cause property taxes go up 1%.

d) Infrastructure Projects List (Mayor Rossi/Trustee Baskin)

Mayor Rossi spoke about the water towers and the liner replacement.

Trustee Raymond said the DPW prefers a glass liner over painting.

Mayor Rossi noted that Don Rhodes said that grants will be hard to come by due our water rates being so low.

Trustee Baskin said there will be 3 stages for infrastructure projects.

Trustee Baskin suggested putting in better water meters could increase revenue and thinks it would be ideal to separate water revenue from the general fund.

9) New Business

a) Front St. Work/Surveying (Mayor Rossi)

The report provided by LaBella Engineering, shows there are 9 properties along Front Street that have sidewalk/easement issues. Correction deeds will be offered.

The sewage line underneath Wiswall Park will have to be evaluated to see if it is viable.

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez noted that the BSBPA and the Arts Committee will help with ways to help businesses during this time.

b) Capital Reserve Funds (Water & Fire) (Mayor Rossi/Trustee VanDeinse-Perez)

Mayor Rossi noted that Don Rhodes and our accountants recommend moving some funds into a capital reserve fund for budgeting purposes.

Attorney Buettner explained that capital reserve funds are funds that are reserved for a specific purpose.

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

Judy Esposito, 48 Chapman Street stated that they are considering moving the Sans Souci spring, and suggested that when the Front Street work is being done that would be a good time to do it.

Mark Blech of 10 Thompson Street thanked everyone who came to Menorah Lighting and Chris Biddle for helping with the hot chocolate.

Regarding the Birdhouse Program, Mr. Blech said it is going great and lots of schools are involved.

Mr. Blech noted they will be distributing 1000 birdhouses and the Bird House Festival is tentatively scheduled for May 13.

Mr. Blech said a 2 story bird house will be displayed in Wiswall Park and Mr. Blech asked if some of the old street signs could be sued for the roof.

Gina Marozzi of 10 Old Glory Lane asked about moving the Winter Festival back a couple of weeks if there is not enough snow for it for the current scheduled date of 2/11. The businesses will be kept informed.

Natalia Martinez, 9 Pheasant Run and owner of Play Hollow noted that a lot of the businesses are concerned about the Front Street work, and they would like to meet to discuss it.

Nathan Ward, 1 Hyde Blvd. reported that the BSBPA is happy to be having the ChocolateFest on 2/3.

Kris Dubuque of 6 Kaleen Drive spoke about the No one walks alone program to help students with mental health.

Mr. Dubuque also expressed his appreciation to Mr. Blech for the Menorah lighting and for his son being able to be a part of the ceremony.

11) Board Comments, Questions, and Concerns

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez said she was very moved by the Hanukkah Celebration.

Trustee Baskin noted it was a very nice ceremony.

Trustee Baskin is unhappy with what he feels is a lack of communication.

Mayor Rossi responded that it is difficult to respond to so many emails, citing 90 from 3 of the Trustees in about 9 days.

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez agreed and recommended calling if you feel you need an immediate response.

Trustee Raymond added that the more the Board hashes out outside of the meeting will make the meetings shorter.

12) Agenda Items for Consideration

a) Motion made by Trustee Raymond, seconded by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez that the DPW be authorized to expend the amount of \$12,000.00 for rock salt. (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

b) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Raymond approving Labella's scope of surveying work for Front St. properties for an amount not to exceed \$8,000, and authorizing the Mayor to execute the agreement. (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

c) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Raymond that the 190 newly removed street name signs be deemed surplus and that those signs may be scrapped, auctioned, and/or sold. The manner of disposition of each sign may be determined by the Mayor with the assistance of DPW staff, and the Mayor may execute any needed documentation related to such disposition. (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

d) Motion made by Trustee Raymond, seconded by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez authorizing the purchase of a 2023 Chevrolet Silverado 3500HD pickup truck with SS Vee Plow and Aluminum Liftgate from Mangino Chevrolet for the price of \$63,998.00 in connection with the DPW equipment USDA loan, and authorizing the Mayor to execute the attached Letter of Intent related to such purchase. (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

e) Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee Raymond scheduling a special meeting of the village board held on January 30 at 7:30 p.m. to discuss the draft sidewalk law. No other agenda items will be discussed at this meeting. (Requested by Trustee Baskin)

After discussion,

Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Mayor Rossi to table the motion.

Trustee Raymond-yes

Trustee Baskin-no

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez-yes

Mayor Rossi-yes

Motion Passed

f) Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee Raymond scheduling a special meeting to discuss the draft ethics law, tentatively scheduled for February 6 at 7 p.m., final date and time TBD at the board meeting. (Requested by Trustee Baskin)

After discussion,

Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez to table the motion.

Ayes All

g) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Mayo Rossi to request LaBerge to provide grant and match information regarding available or anticipated grants related to and cost estimates for work and services for: 1) John Street Water Tower replacement; 2) John Street Water Tower rehabilitation; 3) Water meter replacement in the Village of Ballston Spa; 4) Water mater replacement for customers outside the Village of Ballston Spa (including work with the municipalities/water districts to conduct such a changeover); 5) Geyser Road Well Generator work; and 6) Malta water connection issues due to a lack of a water main loop. (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

After discussion,

Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee Raymond to table the motion.

Ayes All

13) Other Business

Mayor Rossi is working on putting together his Mayor’s Advisory Group for the facilities search.

Trustee Baskin wants the Mayor’s Advisory Group to sign conflict of interest forms.

14) Executive Session (If Needed)

There was none.

15) Adjournment/Voucher Audit:

Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee Raymond, that the vouchers be audited and the meeting adjourned at 9:22pm.

General Fund	\$ 76,979.52
Sewer Relevy	2,699.27
Library Fund	8,448.74
Trust & Agency	<u>2,329.32</u>
Total	\$ 90,456.85

Respectfully Submitted,

Teri L. O’Connor
Village Clerk