

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BALLSTON SPA, NY** held on May 9, 2022.

Present: Mayor Rossi, Trustee Kormos, Trustee Raymond, Trustee Baskin, Trustee VanDeinse, Village Clerk O'Connor, Treasurer Smith, Attorney Buettner

Absent: Village Administrator Jennifer Moskowitz

**1) Call to Order**

**2) Pledge to the Flag**

**3) Approval of Minutes**

- a) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Kormos that the minutes of 4/25/22 be approved.

Trustee Baskin asked that it be put into the minutes that regarding the PDD discussion, developers said it would not stop them from developing.

Ayes All

**4) Mayor Announcements**

- a) Juvenile vandalism is becoming a problem.
- b) The PBA contract talks will be resuming.
- c) Coffee with the Mayor will take place this Thursday at Nomad from 9:30am to 10:30am.
- d) Traffic issues on Hyde Blvd. are still being looked at.
- e) Letter regarding the water feasibility study. (attached)
- f) Explanation of new DPW titles.
- g) The NYCOM conference was very helpful.
- h) Library renovations are being looked at.
- i) Union Fire Co.'s Old timers Banquet and the Rotary's Centennial Celebrations were enjoyable events.
- j) Sidewalk dining is not allowed in our code; we will discuss how to handle this.

**5) Liaison Reports**

Trustee Kormos urged folks to go on the Library website to see the plans and give input.

Trustee Baskin reported that Arts Committee is working on their planters and the mural. Also, friends of the Kayaderosseras will be having creek clean up day on May 15, and creek tenders' day on May 21.

Trustee Raymond noted that the DPW has been doing spot repairs on roads.

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez spoke about the number of calls the Fire Dept. responds to and the number of training hours the volunteers put in.

**6) Treasurer's Report (attached)**

**7) Presentation (Ellie Dillon – National Bottle Museum)**

Ms. Dillon spoke about the museum which also has an art gallery.

**8) Old Business**

- a) DPW Equipment (Requested by Mayor Rossi)  
The Board discussed funding for new equipment.
- b) PDD Legislation (Requested by Trustee Baskin)

The proposed PDD was discussed at length, with a main concern being the newest version that includes the entire Village.

Mayor Rossi suggested having a workshop and read aloud a letter from property owner Jim Beaudoin. (attached)

Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Mayor Rossi that a workshop be held on May 16<sup>th</sup> in coordination with the already scheduled meeting on May 16<sup>th</sup> related to the PDD.

Gina Marozzi, 10 Old Glory Lane, Lisa Speidel of 106 Prospect Street and Bob Bush Jr., 71 Church Avenue all spoke in favor of a workshop.

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez-yes    Trustee Raymond-no

Trustee Baskin-no

Trustee Kormos-no

Mayor Rossi-yes

Motion Failed

## **9) New Business**

a) Hyde Blvd. Study / Potential USDA Grant Through County (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Removed from consideration.

## **10) Public Comment Related Only to Agenda Items for Consideration (4-Minute Limit per Speaker)**

Lisa Speidel of 106 Prospect Street is not in favor of solicitors of any kind and is concerned about pest control poison.

Fire Chief Kevin Krogh noted that the fundraiser at Ribbon Café is to benefit a former firefighter who has cancer and urged all residents to show their appreciation for this man who has put a lot of time and effort in for the community.

Christine Fitzpatrick, 31 Chapman Street and Dick Duffy of 21 Division Street spoke about the DPW positions.

## **11) Agenda Items for Consideration**

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

Ayes All

b) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Baskin that the Ribbon Café be authorized to conduct a fundraiser benefit on 6/5/22 from 2:00pm – 7:00pm. A permit will be issued upon receipt of proof of insurance. (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Baskin that the motion be amended to specify that no road closures will be performed unless and until approved by the Chief of Police and the Fire Chief.

Ayes All

c) Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee Kormos that The Committee on the Arts be granted permission to display planters around Village businesses. (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

d) Motion made by Trustee Raymond, seconded by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez that Eagle-Matt Lee Fire Co. #1 be granted permission to utilize the firehouse for a private event on 5/15/22 from 12:00pm – 4:00pm. (Requested by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez)

Ayes All

e) Motion made by Trustee Raymond, seconded by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez that Fox Pest Control be granted permission to solicit door to door from 5/1/22 to 8/31/22, Mondays through Fridays, 9:00am – 9:00pm and Saturdays 9:00am-5:00pm. Approval has been granted by the Police Chief and the Building Inspector. (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

The Board discussed changing the code regarding peddler permits.

Ayes All

f) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Kormos to approve and submit grant application in the amount of \$46,948.11, for the intent of purchasing an LPR (license plate recognition) system. (See attachment; Note: this grant has no village match) (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

g) Motion made by Trustee Raymond seconded by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez to approve Scott Kerns as Working Supervisor for a 6-month probational period beginning June 1st at an hourly rate of \$30.62. (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez-yes    Trustee Raymond-yes

Trustee Baskin-yes

Trustee Kormos-yes

Mayor Rossi-yes

Motion Passed

h) Motion made by Trustee Raymond, seconded by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez to approve Glenn Bowers as Crew Leader for a 6-month probational period beginning June 1st at an hourly rate of \$29.25. (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

i) Motion made by Trustee Kormos, seconded by Trustee Baskin to deem Library community room chairs as surplus property. (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

j) Motion made by Trustee Kormos, seconded by Trustee Baskin to approve submission of a USDA loan preapplication not to exceed \$1.5 Million for the purchase of 6 pieces of equipment. (Note: application pending specifications and pricing on DPW equipment, to be completed by 5/13/2022) (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

k) Motion made by Trustee Raymond, seconded by Trustee Baskin that Boy Scout Troop #1 be granted permission to hold a “Court of Honor” ceremony at the Old Iron Spring Park on 6/5/22 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. Proof of insurance has been submitted. (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

l) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez seconded by Trustee Kormos that the Ballston Spa Memorial Day Parade Committee be granted permission to conduct a parade on Saturday, May 28th. Parade will step off promptly at 9am at Ocean State Job Lots and proceed through the Village via Route 50 to Front Street, then Low Street with an hour-long ceremony to follow at Veterans Monument. (Requested by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez)

Ayes All

m) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse, seconded by Mayor Rossi that the first two sentences of the Rules of Procedure shall be replaced by the following: “Regular meetings are held the second and fourth Monday of the month at 6:30 PM in the Ballston Spa Library, 21 Milton Avenue. The schedule of meetings with any exceptions noted is approved annually at the Organizational meeting at the Library the first Monday in April each year at 6:30 PM unless the Village changes its official year, at which point the Organizational meeting shall be held the first Monday in January.” (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez-yes    Trustee Raymond-no

Trustee Baskin-no

Trustee Kormos-no

Mayor Rossi-yes

Motion Failed

n) Motion made by Trustee Baskin seconded by Trustee Raymond that the following additions and/or changes will be made to the Rules of Procedure:

- 1. Draft minutes will be emailed to Trustees within the time frame allowed by law.
- 2. All written statements read at a board meeting and submitted to the Clerk within 10 days of the board meeting will be attached to the minutes as part of the official record of the meetings. The minutes and these statements will be posted together on the village web site. (Point of Clarification - Members of the public can speak at board meetings without submitting written statements. If they choose to submit a written statement to accompany the minutes, they must either read the statement at the board meeting, or submit prior to the board meeting and request that it be read at the meeting, if they are unable to attend. Such statements must include their name and address. Statements submitted after the meeting that were not presented at the meeting will not be included with the minutes of the meeting.) (Requested by Trustee Baskin)

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez=yes    Trustee Raymond=no  
Trustee Baskin=no                      Trustee Kormos=no                      Mayor Rossi=abstained

Motion Passed

o) Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee Kormos that there is one official village newsletter; that all board members will have the opportunity to contribute to this newsletter, which will be produced at least quarterly; that this newsletter will be mailed to all village residents, and emailed to village residents who have submitted their email address to the village for this purpose; hard copies will also be made available at the village hall; that the newsletter will be reviewed and approved by a four-fifths majority of the board prior to public distribution; that the newsletter will be for informational purposes pertaining to village business and events; that no other newsletters or other materials will be mass mailed to the public by Mayor or Trustees using village resources without prior four-fifths approval of the board; with the exception of mailings related to the collection of fees, or other routine administrative business; that all board members have equal ability to email the public through the village administrator using the village-maintained email list and must adhere to the aforementioned guidelines of content focused purely on village business; that any email must be requested and submitted to the mayor so the mayor may direct the village administrator to execute the request; that the content of the email communication is not to be hindered by the mayor so long as it is factual and pertains only to village business. (Requested by Trustee Baskin)

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez=yes    Trustee Raymond=yes  
Trustee Baskin=yes                      Trustee Kormos=yes                      Mayor Rossi=abstained

Motion Passed

12) Other Business

None

13) Public Comment on All Village Business (4-Minute Limit per Speaker)

Dick Duffy, 21 Division Street is embarrassed by the Board talking over each other and the length of the meetings.

John Carollo of 38 Washington Street said there are rumors going around that people were threatened with a rent increase at Mohican Hills if they didn't vote for Mayor Rossi.

Mayor Rossi said that is untrue.

Gina Marozzi, 10 Old Glory Lane noted that Mr. Carollo's statement is slander and defamation.

Ms. Speidel stated that Park and Tree Board minutes have not been posted.

Donna Dardaris of 64 Middle Street stated she is disgusted with the Board for yelling at each other.

Ms. Dardaris announced that the “Sheep to Shawl” program has resumed at the Brookside Museum.

Ray Otten, 16 Middlebrook Avenue spoke about parking on his street, Ford Street and Front Street. Additionally, Mr. Otten said it doesn’t make sense that three trustees agree on everything that comes up.

Trustee Kormos suggested doing a study.

There was discussion about traffic control measures.

Donna Martin of 20 Chesterwood Court is appalled by Mr. Carollo’s statements.

Peter Martin of 20 Chesterwood Court asked why Lloyd Helman was taken off of the Ethics Board.

Trustee Raymond said it was to rotate community members who want to participate, and he hopes there will be term limits on all Boards.

Bob Bush Jr. of 71 Church Avenue agreed with Mr. Duffy and encouraged the Board to stop bickering whether they like each or not.

Keith Lewis of 38 East High Street feels the consensus is that there is a disconnect.

**14) Board Comments, Questions, and Concerns**

(interjected during public comment)

**15) Adjournment/Voucher Audit:**

Motion made by Trustee Baskin seconded by Trustee Raymond, that the Vouchers No. 22-00422 to 22-02107 be audited and the meeting adjourned at 10:30 pm.

General Fund	\$ 26,346.61
Sewer Relevy	255.57
Capital Projects Funds	109,377.00
Library Fund	3,121.45
Trust & Agency	<u>5,698.06</u>
Total	\$144,798.69

Ayes All

Respectfully Submitted,

Teri L. O’Connor  
Village Clerk