

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BALLSTON SPA, NY held on August 22, 2022.

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

Absent: Trustee Raymond

1) Call to Order

2) Pledge to the Flag

3) Minutes

a) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Kormos that the minutes of the 7/25/22 special meeting be approved.

Ayes All

b) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Baskin that the minutes of the 8/1/22 special meeting be approved.

Ayes All

4) Mayor Announcements

a) Family Fun Day was phenomenal with an estimated attendance of 2,500.

b) Our New York Forward preapplication is in.

c) The Comprehensive Planning Committee will meet on 8/30 to go over the surveys.

5) Liaison Reports

Trustee Kormos noted that the Library Trustees are helping with fundraising for improvements and have formed a sub-committee to help with grants.

Trustee Baskin said that there will be a picnic for seniors, put on by the Office for the Aging at the Fairgrounds on 9/8.

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez reported on the Arts Committee, stating that next year they would like to do something on Front Street.

6) Treasurer's Report (attached)

7) Presentation

Eagle Scout Candidate Ben Jewell proposed a plan to create new trailhead kiosks and information posts in Woods Hollow.

8) Old Business

a) Water Tank Inspection Reports

Mayor Rossi shared that 2 of the tanks have minor issues to resolve, but the John Street tank will need to at least be repainted.

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez added that some general maintenance and repairs are recommended.

Trustee Kormos would like a comparison of painting vs a glass liner for the John Street tank.

Trustee Baskin feels the DPW can do some of the repairs and maintenance.

b) Audit Cost / Financial Statement?

Treasurer Smith spoke about the proposal from Teal Becker recommending a 3 year contract which would include yearly audits.

The matter will be discussed further at a future meeting.

9) New Business

There was no new business, however Trustee Kormos spoke about old business, including repairs to the Village Office and the vault underneath the sidewalk.

Trustee Kormos is unhappy that Republican politicians were on the sponsor signs for Family Fun Day.

Mayor Rossi said they were donors who happened to be politicians.

Trustee Baskin asked if Democrats were asked to donate .

Gina Marozzi, 10 Old Glory Lane said the Republicans were not asked, they came to us.

Trustee Kormos feels it is inappropriate.

Mayor Rossi asked Trustee Kormos if the Village is going to make up those funds if donations from politicians are not accepted.

Trustee Kormos said it was a great success and noted she wants to see what it actually cost.

10) Public Comment on All Village Business #1 (3-Minute Limit per Speaker)

Anna Stanko, 32 Kent Street led a round of applause for Family Fun Day Coordinator Mark Blech and thanked Gina Marozzi and all of the volunteers.

Ms. Stanko chastised the Trustees who are not new to the Board for not getting things such as repairs done previously.

Bob Cavanaugh of 20 Crestline Drive expressed his dismay that the Board couldn't make a decision on which new DPW to buy, so they bought all of them.

Mr. Cavanaugh feels repairing the retaining wall should be a priority.

Ray Otten, 16 Middlebrook Avenue thanked the people who helped with Family Fun Day and noted that store owners were very happy.

Mr. Otten would like the Village to consider purchasing the Community Corps. building.

Christine Fitzpatrick of 31 Chapman Street stated that during her 5 ½ months as Mayor, they were in the process of working on a plan for repairs.

Mayor Rossi expressed his displeasure at former Mayor's being criticized, as well as a former Mayor being critical of him.

Ms. Marozzi feels former Mayor's should have a level of respect for current Mayor's.

Mark Blech, 10 Thompson Street chastised the Board for singling him out by asking for itemization, something they have not required of anyone else.

Lisa Speidel of 106 Prospect Street is upset that the Village no longer has its own animal control officer.

Ms. Speidel asked what happened to the proposed newsletter.

Bob Bush Jr., 71 Church Avenue suggested that the Board ask local scout troops for help with some of the projects that need to be done.

Pete Martin of 20 Chesterwood Court thanked Mark Blech for all he did and feels he should be paid for doing these projects.

Mr. Martin agreed that Mayor bashing needs to stop.

Mandy Rider, 90 Heritage Place spoke about the morning part of Family Fun Day that addressed special needs and stressed the importance of it.

Michelle Bechard of 14 Bath Street is glad that Family Fun Day has been brought back.

Ms. Bechard stated that the Board needs to stop the vitriol.

Lori Acee, 25 Eastern Avenue thanked everyone for an amazing Family Fun Day, noting there was joy on faces of all ages.

Keith Lewis of 38 East High Street feels there is a lot of political theatrics.

Mr. Lewis commended the Mayor for bringing Family Fun Day back.

Mayor Rossi wants the more email communication between the Board members to alleviate some of the vitriol and shorten the meeting length.

Nathan Ward, 1 Hyde Blvd. thanked DPW for repainting the street lines.

Mr. Ward noted that 1st Friday's will be trivia themed for the next couple of months.

Mayor Rossi thanked Mr. Ward for his dedication to the community.

Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Kormos that Nathan Ward be appointed as a permanent Alternate on the Planning Board for the remainder of the official year.

Ayes All

Trustee Baskin thanked Mark and Gina for their tremendous effort regarding Family Fun Day.

11) Agenda Items for Consideration

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

Ayes All

b) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Baskin that the BSBPA be granted permission to reschedule the Concert in the Park (rained out on 7/28/22) on 9/1/22 from 5:00pm to 8:00pm at Iron Spring Park. (Requested by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez)

Ayes All

c) Motion made by Trustee Kormos, seconded by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez that the BSBPA be granted permission to reschedule the Concert in the Park and Ice Cream Social (rained out on 8/4/22) on 9/8/22 from 5:00pm to 8:00pm at Iron Spring Park. (Requested by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez)

Ayes All

d) Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez that Stephen Porcello be appointed as a part time Police Officer. (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

e) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Kormos that Gina Marozzi be granted permission to hold a "September 11th Observance" on 9/11/22 from 6:00pm to 9:30pm, and to close Front Street from Bath Street to Court Street. (Requested by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez)

Ayes All

f) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Kormos that the Fire Police be authorized to expend the amount of \$1,422.00 for 4 pagers. (A3113.4.5) (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

g) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Baskin that the Police Dept. be granted permission to submit for a grant through CSX for equipment in the amount of \$13,000.00. (No Match) (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

h) Motion made by Trustee Kormos, seconded by Trustee Baskin to approve a “Festival Rodeo” at the Saratoga County Fairgrounds on 8/27/22 from Noon to 11:00pm. A permit will be issued upon receipt of proof of insurance. (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

i) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Baskin to authorize the Friends of Wiswall Park to host volunteer work days in Wiswall Park on: 1) Friday, August 26th from 9:30am to 12pm and 1pm to 4pm; 2) on Saturday August 27th from 1pm to 5pm for additional weeding in the Park; 3) on Friday, September 9th from 9:30am to 12pm and 1pm to 4pm to address the Bishops Weed in the beds that were previously weeded; and 4) on Saturday, September 10th from 1pm to 5pm for additional work related to the Bishops Weed. This will involve digging up soil in the beds, placing heavy duty landscape fabric down, and putting down fresh topsoil. The Village of Ballston Spa DPW will supply the road cloth. (Requested by Trustee Baskin; Written & Revised by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez & Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

j) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Baskin that the Friends of Wiswall Park Committee devise a plan related to the replacement of benches in Wiswall Park and come back to the Village Board before any further actions are taken.

Ayes All

k) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Kormos to approve the purchase of street name signs, poles, and related equipment from Highway Traffic Supply Company for an amount not to exceed \$14,824.00, and authorizing the Mayor to execute any agreement related to such a purchase. (Note: This will be reimbursed by the County through the Contract approved during the 8/8/2022 Board meeting; invoice to be provided before the meeting) (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

l) Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee Kormos that the Mayor will work to establish an official Village email survey system, in order to obtain the capacity to collect Village residents’ opinions on official Village business in a timely manner. Survey questions can be submitted for consideration by any Board member, and would be approved by a super majority vote of 4/5ths or greater of the Board prior to distribution. To be included as a survey recipient, residents would submit their email addresses to the Village, along with their place of residence, to ensure respondents are Village residents. (Requested by Trustee Baskin)

Ayes All

m) Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez that Life Scout Ben Jewell be permitted to perform the work detailed in his presentation at the Village of Ballston Spa Board of Trustees meeting on 8/22/22, after a certificate of insurance is provided naming the Village of Ballston Spa as also insured.

Ayes All

12) Other Business

None

13) Public Comment on All Village Business #2 (3-Minute Limit per Speaker)

Ms. Marozzi thanked former Mayor Romano for creating family events.

Ms. Marozzi shared that all of the money that the children put on stage when the Refrigerator’s played at Family Fun Day was matched by the band and donated to St. Jude’s, recognizing the children of Ballston Spa.

Judy Esposito, 48 Chapman Street said everyone is welcome to help in Wiswall Park.

Ray Otten of 16 Middlebrook Avenue asked who the liaison is for the Park and Tree Board.

Mayor Rossi answered Trustees Baskin and Kormos.

Several heartwarming stories were shared by Family Fun Day volunteers, highlighting the joy that was brought to so many.

14) Board Comments, Questions, and Concerns

None

15) Adjournment/Voucher Audit:

Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee Kormos, that the Vouchers No. 22-01023 to 22-02276 and 23-01902 to 23-00547 be audited and the meeting adjourned at 9:41pm.

Vouchers- FY2022

General Fund	\$ <u>8,002.80</u>
Total	\$ 8,002.80

Vouchers- FY2023

General Fund	\$ 104,729.99
Sewer Relevy	3,635.78
Library Fund	3,935.52
Trust & Agency	<u>2,081.17</u>
Total	\$ 81,449.86

Ayes All

Respectfully Submitted,

Teri L. O'Connor
Village Clerk