

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BALLSTON SPA, NY held on September 25, 2023.

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

Absent: Trustee Kormos (appeared via Zoom during public comment), Trustee Raymond

1) Call to Order

2) Pledge to the Flag

3) Minutes

- a) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Baskin that the minutes of the 9/12/23 meeting be approved.

Ayes All

4) Mayor Announcements-None

5) Liaison Reports

Trustee Baskin noted that the Park and Tree Board submitted their recommendations for the Birdhouse contract and are looking over the parks law.

The Arts Committee is considering putting a decoration on the new CDTA shelter, Trustee Baskin reported.

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez stated that Saratoga Arts applications are due 11/28.

The Bottle Museum will have a ribbon cutting on 10/6 at 4:30 and will be exhibiting a glass factory mountain that will reflect the history of bottles and mineral waters in Saratoga County.

Additional, Trustee VanDeinse-Perez reminded all that the car show is 10/8.

6) Treasurer's Report

Mayor Rossi shared that it will be time to prepare for relieves soon, statewide sales tax went up 4% and 10% in the State. Also, the AUD is being actively worked on.

7) Presentation

- a) Department Update: Police Department (Chief David Bush)

Chief Bush announced that the Dept. has been awarded a Criminal Justice Services Grant in the amount of \$9,808.00 for narcotics investigation.

Chief Bush stated that Narcan and Narcan training is available to anyone who wants it.

Additionally, Chief Bush noted that we now have Officer Ackley concentrating on traffic issues 2 days a week.

Chief Bush noted improved communications between law enforcement agencies is in the works.

8) Old Business

- a) ASCC Birdhouse Contract (Trustee Baskin)

Trustee Baskin said he and the Park and Tree Board have concerns about the contract.

- b) Family Fun Day Accounting (Trustee Baskin)

Mayor Rossi shared cost and donation figures for the event, stating that the cost to the Village was \$8,167.97.

Mayor Rossi thanked the Task Force and donors for what they did.

Trustee Baskin thanked the volunteers.

c) Studio A Contract (Trustee Baskin)¹

Mayor Rossi stated that the contract has been fully executed.

9) New Business

a) FOIL Requests (Trustee Baskin)

Trustee Baskin gave an overview of how FOIL requests are processed.

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

Christine Fitzpatrick of 31 Chapman Street would prefer a written report on event accounting, rather than an oral one.

Mayor Rossi responded they will be in writing; this one was not due to time constraints.

Gina Marozzi, 10 Old Glory Lane asked why the Events Task Force is the only group or committee to be scrutinized.

Ray Otten of 16 Middlebrook Avenue asked if anything is being done with the park in Colonial Hills.

Pete Martin, 20 Chesterwood Court chastised Trustee Baskin for the way he talks to women, his demeanor and for being dishonest.

Keith Lewis of 38 East High Street stated he hired an outside social media company to monitor and assess the Mayor's Facebook page and accused the Mayor of hiding comments and not honoring the Constitution.

Trustee Kormos is unhappy with the way FOIL requests are handled.

Lisa Speidel, 106 Prospect Street asked about the status of the fire whistle blowing at noon and 6:00pm.

11) Board Response

Mayor Rossi stated he will check, last he heard, it needed to be replaced.

Responding to Mr. Martin, Trustee Baskin said his comments were inaccurate.

Regarding criticism of the Board for being involved with the Ethic's Code that they will have to answer to, Trustee Baskin stated that the Board will make the laws they think are appropriate.

Mayor Rossi thanked the Ethics Board for their work and non-partisanship.

12) Agenda Items for Consideration

a) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Baskin that Jessica Clemmens be removed from the rolls of Eagle-Matt Lee Fire Co. #1 and The Ballston Spa Fire Dept. (Requested by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez)

Ayes All

¹ The Studio A contract has not been received back by the Village in executed form at this time, but a representative has indicated that it has been executed as of Friday, 9/22/2023, and will be received by the Village soon.

b) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Baskin that the following contracts be approved, and the Mayor authorized and directed to execute same (Requested by Mayor Rossi):

Brookside Museum	\$2,500.00
National Bottle Museum	\$3,000.00
Friends of the Kayaderosseras	\$1,000.00
Ballston Elks Club	In Kind (Plowing)
Ballston Area Senior Citizens	\$12,000.00
Ballston Area Community Center	\$15,000.00
Ballston American Legion	In Kind (Plowing)
Ballston Area Recreation Commission	\$12,100.00

Ayes All

c) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Baskin to engage Joe Johnson Equipment to perform installation of an Autowind Reel and Pinch Roller on the Vac Truck for the amount of \$9,057.57 with funds being allocated from the appropriate DPW budget line. The Board further approves usage of General Fund fund balance should the proper budget line not have sufficient funds now or in the future (up to the \$9,057.57 amount). (Requested by Trustee Raymond & Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

d) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Baskin to engage HL Gage Sales, Inc. to perform brake repairs on the Tandem Dump Truck for the amount of \$12,102.80 with funds being allocated from the appropriate DPW budget line. The Board further approves usage of General Fund fund balance should the proper budget line not have sufficient funds now or in the future (up to the \$12,102.80 amount). (Requested by Trustee Raymond & Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

e) Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez to engage HL Gage Sales, Inc. to perform axle repairs on the Tandem Dump Truck for the amount of \$3,170.86 with funds being allocated from the appropriate DPW budget line. The Board further approves usage of General Fund fund balance should the proper budget line not have sufficient funds now or in the future (up to the \$3,170.86 amount). (Requested by Trustee Raymond & Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

f) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Baskin to purchase a root cutter nozzle for the Vac Truck for the price of \$3,800.00 with funds being allocated from the appropriate DPW budget line. The Board further approves usage of General Fund fund balance should the proper budget line not have sufficient funds now or in the future (up to the \$3,800.00 amount). (Requested by Trustee Raymond & Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

g) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Mayor Rossi to authorize the Ballston Spa Fire Department to expend up to \$12,500.00 for the renovation of the Eagle Matt-Lee Fire Company No. 1 firehouse bathroom. After 5/31/2023, \$10,000.00 for this renovation project was moved to General Fund fund balance. The Board approves the \$12,500.00 to be utilized from General Fund fund balance. (Requested by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez)

Trustee Baskin wants a better description and a more detailed budget.

Trustee Baskin-abstain

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez-yes

Mayor Rossi-yes0

Motion Failed

h) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Baskin authorizing DPW to hire Darshan Williams as a full-time laborer effective 9/27/2023 at the hourly rate of \$18.00 per hour. (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

13) Other Business

Trustee Kormos said she doesn't know who was on the Ethic's Committee and stated she feels that Ms. Gazetos had no authority to expand it.

Mayor Rossi reminded Trustee Kormos that there was also a Mayor's Advisory Committee and that there was nothing wrong with getting their input.

Trustee Kormos feels only Elected Officials should make final decisions.

Trustee Baskin denied knowing about the Mayor's Advisory Committee.

Mayor Rossi told him the meeting where it was discussed is on video.

14) Executive Session (If Needed)-Not Needed

15) Adjournment/Voucher Audit:

Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, that the Vouchers be audited, and the meeting adjourned at 8:48pm.

General Fund	\$324,570.19
Sewer Relevy	4,796.25
Library Fund	13,029.73
Trust & Agency	<u>2,181.36</u>
Total	\$344,577.53

Ayes All

Respectfully Submitted,

Teri L. O'Connor
Village Clerk