

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BALLSTON SPA, NY held on September 26, 2022.

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

1) Call to Order

2) Pledge to the Flag

3) Minutes

a) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Raymond that the minutes of the 9/12/22 meeting be approved as revised earlier today.

Trustee Baskin asked that it be made clear that the DOT is willing to put in a crosswalk and signs if we put in the ADA ramps. Then another study will be done to see if the signal will go in.

Ayes All

b) Motion made by Trustee Kormos, seconded by Trustee Baskin that the minutes of the 9/21/22 special meeting be approved.

Ayes All

4) Mayor Announcements

a) The NY Forward application is in.

b) Truck signs warning of camera monitoring are a being looked for Hyde Blvd.

c) More lighting at the intersection of East High Street and Hyde Blvd. will also be looked into.

d) The Mayor may create a Mayor's Advisory Board for the creation of a 2023 streets plan across the Village.

e) Attorney Buettner is working on the sidewalk law revisions.

5) Liaison Reports

Trustee Kormos said if we get the NY Forward grant, the Library expansion can happen. The NY Forward part is the match, the assumption is that the Library will apply for a SALS grant for the additional 75%.

Trustee Kormos noted that the Village will be looking into an ADA transition grant.

Trustee Baskin stated that the Arts Committee will be meeting with another mural artist.

Trustee Raymond noted the DPW is painting crosswalks and doing some milling.

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez shared that the Arts Committee is putting their application online. They are also working on their charter.

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez reminded everyone that the car show is 10/9/22.

6) Treasurer's Report (attached)

7) Presentations

a) Community Forest Management Plan for the Village (Cali Fox - Davey Resource Group, Inc.)

Via Zoom, Ms. Fox spoke about tree management.

b) The Friends of the Library (Christine Fitzpatrick)

Ms. Fitzpatrick explained the Friends of the Library's purpose is to enhance collections and programs and promote the Library through volunteering and fundraising.

8) Old Business

a) Stormwater/Sewer Assessment (Trustee Raymond)

Trustee Raymond said locations of sanitary sewer with areas of concern have been identified. These locations may have a critical need of repair or replacement.

Mayor Rossi noted that sump pumps are not to be run into the sanitary sewer.

b) NY Forward Survey Summary (Trustee Baskin)

Trustee Baskin shared that resident like the diversity of businesses and the proximity to residential. A friendly atmosphere, community events, arts and the BSBPA are also popular with our residents. The greatest challenge was noted to be inadequate parking.

Other suggestions included redeveloping Angelica, better recreation options, better publicity/signage and extending the downtown.

Trustee Kormos read her revised motion regarding committees and groups.

The Board disagreed on the process of selecting committee members.

9) New Business

10) Public Comment #1 (3-Minute Limit per Speaker)

Donna Martin of 20 Chesterwood Court suggested putting something in a newsletter regarding committee opportunities.

Bob Bush Jr., 71 Church Avenue again chastised the Board for not conducting more discussion via email so that it doesn't have to happen in front of the public.

Mr. Bush asked why we have not received a newsletter since January; if we're not going to use the money that was allocated for it, put the money somewhere else.

Ray Otten of 16 Middlebrook Avenue disagrees with Trustee Kormos proposed motion regarding committees.

Mr. Otten suggested that if there is not going to be a newsletter, use the money for more security at Kelley Park.

Mayor Rossi said leads are being pursued on the latest damage to Kelley Park.

Mr. Otten asked the Board if they have looked at the FEMA requirements he spoke about at the last meeting and suggested there be a motion at the next meeting mandating that the course be taken within 60 days of being elected.

Gina Marozzi, 10 Old Glory Lane spoke on behalf of the events group (ASCC), asked that some of the unused newsletter funds be allocated to the Christmas ornaments and banners.

Anna Stanko of 32 Kent Street also disagreed with the proposed motion regarding committees.

Darlene McGraw, a resident of Halfmoon spoke about ADA requirements and road safety.

Natalia Martinez, 9 Pheasant Run supports the holiday program. M.s Martinez also disagreed with Trustee Kormos motion regarding committees.

Dana Womer of 18 Coronado Way also expressed her support for the events group.

Keith Lewis, 38 East High Street supports Trustee Kormos' s motion.

Mr. Lewis is unhappy that the Historic District Commission (HDC) was not consulted on the NY Forward grant.

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez stated she did speak with the Chair of the HDC.

Mr. Lewis countered that the HDC was not asked early enough.

Kris Dubuque of 6 Kaleen Drive asked the Board to appreciate peoples time and not have these meetings go on so long.

Mr. Dubuque stated he is hearing lots of control and does not support the committee motion.

11) 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 VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Kormos that the BSBPA be granted permission to conduct the annual Holiday Parade on 12/2/22 beginning at 6:30pm. A permit will be issued upon receipt of proof of insurance. (Requested by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez)

Ayes All

c) Motion made by Trustee Raymond, seconded by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez that the Village authorizes the Ballston Spa Lions Club and or the Ballston Spa Rotary to stain the bollards at Kelley Park in the upcoming weekends as weather permits (labor and supplies to be provided by those organizations). (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

d) Motion made by Trustee Kormos, seconded by Trustee Baskin that the Village authorizes the Library to move forward with the expenditure for asbestos testing as outlined in the Master Plan in the amount of \$1,795.00. (L7410.4.4) (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

e) Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez that the Village authorizes the Mayor to execute the agreement with Teal Becker & Chiaramonte, CPA for Auditing Services covering a three-year period. First-year pricing is not to exceed \$23,000, and a 5% increase will apply for the two following years. In addition, the proposal includes Teal Becker providing a Single Audit as needed during the term of this agreement that will cost an additional \$5,000 to \$10,000. (A.1325.4) (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

f) Motion made by Trustee Kormos, seconded by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez to approve the attached Resolution to grant permission to NYSDOT to adjust water valve boxes located at NY-Rt. 50 (Milton Avenue) at Front Street, Washington Avenue, and Malta Avenue in the Village of Ballston Spa, Saratoga County. (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Trustee Kormos-yes

Trustee Baskin-yes

Mayor Rossi-yes

Trustee Raymond-yes

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez-yes

Motion Passed

g) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Kormos that Patricia Tesch be appointed to the Village of Ballston Spa Library Board. (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

h) Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee Raymond that the Mayor be authorized to enter into an agreement with Timothy Brown, of 102 Locust Court, to connect to village water. (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

i) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Raymond that the Ballston Spa VFW Post 358 be granted permission to hold a Veteran Suicide Awareness Walk on Sunday, October 2, from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. along Route 50 from the VFW to the Ballston Spa Elks Lodge 2619 and back. A permit will be issued upon proof of insurance. (Requested by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez)

Ayes All

j) Motion made by Trustee Raymond, seconded by Trustee Kormos that Alexander Sommer be added to the rolls of Union Fire Co, #2 NDTHE Ballston Spa Fire Dept.

Ayes All

k) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Raymond to approve the holiday banner and ornament community art program and to provide funding of \$2,500.00 to non-profit company Arts and Sciences Creating Community, Inc. ("ASCC") to manage and create the items related to the program. The theme this year is "Let There Be Peace on Earth." Banners are authorized to be placed on the Victorian lamp poles, and the ornaments are authorized to be placed on the Village's holiday tree, on the gazebo, and in Village store windows. The banners and ornaments will be installed the week after Thanksgiving, and be removed after January, with dates of placement and removal based on DPW schedule and availability (no overtime required). The Mayor is authorized to execute an agreement with ASK related to the funding of this program. (Requested by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez)

Trustee Baskin questioned who is on the Board of ASCC and the events group and wants to see the by-laws.

Trustee Baskin wants an accounting of Family Fun Day funds and questioned the money for the birdhouses.

Additionally, Trustee Baskin wants to see the contract.

Mayor Rossi said it's a template contract and the Trustees have never seen them.

Mayor Rossi stated that Trustee Baskin is singling out this group.

Ms. Marozzi and Mr. Otten noted that 100 birdhouses will be sent to other Countries and will be featured in Rotary Magazine, making this an international project.

Trustee Raymond asked where the money is coming from.

Treasurer Smith explained where it is in the budget.

Trustee Kormos wants to see an accounting of the money before this is approved.

A voice vote was taken.

Mayor Rossi determined it to be 3-0 and Trustee Raymond, Trustee VanDeinse-Perez and Mayor Rossi all indicated they voted "Aye."

Motion Passed

Trustee Kormos wants insurance to be provided.

Attorney Buettner stated that it is her understanding that the Village's insurance is covering the project.

Additionally, Mayor Rossi added that ASCC is not performing physical work on Village property. The DPW will be hanging the ornaments and banners.

Attorney Buettner is putting that in the contract.

l) Motion made by Trustee Raymond, seconded by Trustee Baskin that the Board approve the Capital District Transportation Committee (CDTC) **??** self-analysis and transition plan for pedestrian infrastructure application and for the Mayor be authorized to sign and submit a letter of commitment

to the CDTC for assistance in adopting and implementing an ADA self-evaluation and transition plan on or before September 30, 2022. Trustee Kormos will complete the application will be reviewed and approved by the Board prior to submission.

Ayes All

12) Other Business

None

13) Public Comment #2 (3-Minute Limit per Speaker)

Mr. Otten stated there will be 2 openings on the Parks Committee.

Mr. Otten read Trustee Kormos statement from a previous meeting where she stated that “The Village of Friends” is getting old.”

Mr. Otten said we are a Village of Friends; we don’t need a PR firm to tell us we’re not.

Trustee Kormos stated we are not a Village of Friends.

Donna Dardaris, 64 Middle Street expressed her dismay at the Board arguing over Christmas banners.

Ms. Dardaris stated she is a registered Democrat and sometimes she’s ashamed; we are a Village of friends when there is no politics.

Mayor Rossi hoped nobody on this panel is looking to change this Village; we are the envy of other communities.

Anna Stanko of 32 Kent Street said there are 7 people in the events group, and they are extremely diverse, and they get things done.

Michele Bechard, 14 Bath Street agrees that that the committee motion put forth by Trustee Kormos is for control.

Ms. Bechard also agreed that the Village motto should not change, we are friends who have a united idea of what this Village is; please stop trying to pull us apart.

Trustee Kormos said she loves this Village too and spoke about the work she has done.

Trustee Kormos thinks that “Village of Friends” has a hollow sound.

Bob Bush Jr., 71 Church Avenue noted how well Family Fun Day went, everyone got along; why can’t the Board?

Mr. Lewis spoke about process and funding rules.

Mr. Lewis agrees with keeping the “Village of Friends” motto and noted we have a common goal.

14) Board Comments, Questions, and Concerns

Trustee Baskin spoke about the birdhouse program, saying they support it, but he personally thinks we don’t need 1000; there were too many last time.

Trustee Baskin wants to see a contract for the birdhouse program and an accounting of funds.

Mayor Rossi asked Trustee Baskin if he is asking any other organization that we give money to.

Mayor Rossi stated that Trustee Baskin is picking on some people more than others.

Trustee Baskin responded that it is because this is a new group and the Mayor’s sister is involved.

Trustee Kormos wants proof of insurance to be provided.

15) Executive Session

Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Raymond that the Board enter into Executive Session to discuss contracts and a personnel question. at 10:14pm.

Ayes All

Motion made by Trustee Raymond, seconded by Trustee Kormos that The Village of Ballston Spa enter into an optional lease agreement with CHPE LLC related to rental of land located at 407 Malta Avenue for the monthly rent of \$1,400.00 per acre plus or minus 3 acres for a term plus or minus 3 years, authorizing the Mayor to execute such agreement after the Village Attorney reviews such agreement and approves it.

Ayes All

16) Adjournment/Voucher Audit:

Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Raymond, that the Vouchers No. 22-02190 and 22-01983 to 23-00790 be audited and the meeting adjourned at 10:53pm.

Vouchers- FY2022

General Fund	\$ <u>61.76</u>
Total	\$ 61.76

Vouchers- FY2023

General Fund	\$ 144,957.65
Sewer Relevy	2,081.85
Library Fund	5,053.00
Trust & Agency	<u>2,081.17</u>
Total	\$ 154,173.67

Ayes All

Respectfully Submitted,

Teri L. O'Connor
Village Clerk