

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BALLSTON SPA, NY held on June 13, 2022

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

1) Call to Order

2) Pledge to the Flag

3) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Kormos that the minutes of the 5/23/22 meeting be approved.

Ayes All

4) Mayor Announcements (attached)

5) Liaison Reports

Trustee Kormos noted that The Library Master Plan has been completed.

Trustee Baskin stated that the Arts Committee has sold about 9 planters so far.

The mural has hit a snag due to the wall being pock marked.

Trustee Baskin said that the Tree and Park Committee is renewing focus on Wiswall Park and they are looking for volunteers. Anyone interested can contact the Trustees.

Trustee Raymond reported that we are moving forward with the water infrastructure study.

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez announced that Movies in the Park and the Farmer's Market have started; Concerts at Old Iron Spring will begin June 30th.

6) Treasurer's Report (attached)

7) Presentations

a) Community Emergency Corps. - Ray Otten/Ashley Edwards

Mr. Otten introduced Ms. Edwards, who will be taking over upon his retirement and explained the services provided by CEC.

b) Friends of the Kayaderosseras – Joe Acee

Mr. Acee provided details about what the FOK does for the creek and various parks.

8) Old Business

Trustee Kormos spoke about the proposed revisions to the ethics code she drafted.

Mayor Rossi and Attorney Buettner feel that the Ethics Board should be the board reviewing the ethics code, not this board.

Mayor Rossi introduced Julie Gazetos, Chair of the Ethics Board, who noted that 2 complaints were received last year, but the code provided no direction.

Ms. Gazetos urged the Board of Trustees to not get too involved; let the Ethics Board propose something that can be edited.

The Board entered into a lengthy discussion regarding this issue.

9) New Business

a) Flagpole Discussion (Trustee Baskin)

Trustee Baskin stated that he has been advised that it is not a good idea to have a flag policy, but rather to decide on a case by case basis.

b) DPW Relocation/Property (Trustee Baskin)

The Board discussed locations for the DPW including the Solar Building and on Fairground Avenue. Rebuilding on the current site was also talked about.

Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee Raymond that the Village Board formally request the Board of Saratoga County Fairgrounds to consider at one of it’s meetings the potential sale of Fairground land to the Village for the Village DPW and to inform the Village of it’s level of interest in pursuing such a sale.

Gina Marozzi, 10 Old Glory Lane stressed that it is taxpayer money.

Angela McFarland of 365 Milton Avenue questioned why the motion is being made when the Fair Board was already approached.

Ms. McFarland wants the Board to stop the power play.

Mark Blech, 10 Thompson Street asked about the power structure of this Board stating it seems like everyone just does what they want.

Attorney Buettner said its all laid out in the Village law.

Mayor Rossi asked exactly who the Fair Board would be informing.

Trustee Baskin answered anyone of us or the Clerk, but he’s fine with it coming to the Mayor.

Trustee Kormos would like the motion reworded to reflect that due diligence has not been done.

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez- no

Trustee Raymond-yes

Trustee Baskin-yes

Trustee Kormos-yes

Mayor Rossi-no

Motion Passed

c) Water Meter Grant (Trustee Kormos)

Mayor Rossi explained that the grant is for radio read meters for inside Village water users.

It was decided to not apply for this grant this year, as we do not have an accurate meter count at this point; hopefully, there will be another chance next year.

e) Street Signs (Trustee Baskin)

According to Mayor Rossi, the County is willing to put forth around \$6,000.00 as a host benefit.

A multi-year replacement plan was discussed.

f) Outdoor Meetings (Trustee VanDeinse-Perez)

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez spoke about bringing back outdoor meetings and having indoor meetings at different locations. Outdoor meeting site sites would have to be covered. Also, the location must have the capability of having ZOOM and streaming.

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

Ms. McFarland feels the Board should not have anything to do with the changing of the ethics code.

Additionally, Ms. McFarland feels Trustee Baskin’s motion to eliminate the additional public comment period is self-serving and improper.

Ray Otten, 16 Middlebrook Avenue suggested that the \$7,200.00 that the Parks Committee has requested for the removal of Bishops weed in Wiswall Park would be better spent on street signs.

Mr. Otten is also unhappy about the proposal to eliminate the additional public comment period, asking when residents get to voice their opinions on agenda items that affect all.

Trustee Baskin answered contact can be made by email or phone.

Mr. Otten prefers face to face.

Gina Marozzi of 10 Old Glory Lane is also unhappy with the possible elimination of the additional public comment period.

Trustee Baskin stated it is a Board decision not a right; the purpose of his motion was to avoid redundancy and shorten the meetings.

Lisa Speidel, 106 Prospect Street said the meetings wouldn't be as long if the bickering wasn't going on.

Bob Bush Jr., 71 Church Avenue thinks outdoor meetings is a great idea.

The Board discussed compromising on the time limit of the comment periods and agreed upon 2 public comment periods of 3 minutes each.

Anna Stanko of 32 Kent Street stated that the Board is wasting the resident's time.

11) Agenda Items for Consideration

a) Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee Raymond 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 Kormos that Play Hollow be authorized to change the dates of their "Summer Kick Off Festival" from 6/24/22 to 6/26/22 with a rain date of 7/10/22. (See attachment) (Requested by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez)

Ayes All

c) Motion made by Trustee Raymond, seconded by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez that the resignation for retirement purposes of part time Police Officer Stanley DeLong be effective 6/24/22. (See attachment) (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

d) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez seconded by Trustee Kormos that Stanley DeLong be appointed as a part-time Police Officer effective 6/25/22. (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

e) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Baskin that the Family Fun Day Committee be granted permission to hold Family Fun Day 8/21/22 (rain date 8/28/22) from 10:00am to 9:00pm. The event will be conducted on Front, Low, and Bath Streets, closing Front Street from Route 50 to Fairground Avenue, and Low and Bath Streets from Route 67 to Front Street. (See attachment) (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

f) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Baskin that the Family Fun Day committee be authorized to expend the amount of \$1,132.53 for supplies. (A7550.4) (See attachment) (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

g) Motion made by Trustee Raymond, seconded by Trustee Kormos that an additional \$1,500.00 be allocated to the Village’s Celebration Account (A7550.4) from Fund Balance for the purpose of matching donations received for Family Fun Day 2022. (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

h) Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez that the Saratoga County Fairground be granted permission to conduct a “Monster Yard Sale” on 6/18/22 from 8:00am to 3:00pm. A permit will be issued upon proof of liability insurance. (See attachment) (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

i) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse, seconded by Trustee Raymond that Union Fire Co. #2 be authorized to expend the amount of \$9,102.00 for turn out gear. (A3412.2) (See attachment) (Requested by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez)

Ayes All

j) Motion made by Trustee Kormos, seconded by Trustee Raymond that Union Fire Co. #2 be authorized to expend the amount of \$1,993.00 for a K-12 rescue saw package. (A3412.2) (See attachment) (Requested by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez)

Ayes All

k) Motion made by Trustee Raymond, seconded by Trustee Kormos accepting the proposal of UCPM, Inc., to provide Fuel Storage Tank Insurance to the Village of Ballston Spa for one year at the cost of \$1,499.11, and authorizing the Mayor to execute the proposal. (See attachment) (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

l) Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee Raymond accepting the Professional Services Agreement between LaBella Associates, D.P.C. (“LaBella”) and the Village of Ballston Spa for LaBella to provide engineering services to the Village from June 1, 2022 through May 31, 2023, and authorizing the Mayor to execute the agreement. (See attachment) (Requested by Trustee Raymond)

The Board discussed concern that there is no fee mentioned.

Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee Kormos to table the motion for later in the meeting.

Ayes All

m) Motion made by Trustee Kormos, seconded by Trustee Baskin that the Mayor is authorized to sign and enter into an agreement with New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) through New York State Office of the State Comptroller (OSC), to receive payments on behalf of eligible households under the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP). (See attachment) (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

n) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Raymond approving the Committee on the Arts’ recommendation for banners to hang for Summer 2022 in the Village, with the theme of “Children for Peace.” (See Attachment) (Requested by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez)

Ayes All

o) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez seconded by Trustee Baskin approving the recommendations of Kate Gawrys and permitting her to hire pool staff indicated on the attached summary sheet for Summer 2022. (See attachment) (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

p) Motion made by Trustee Kormos, seconded by Trustee Baskin approving the pool fee schedule provided by Kate Gawrys for Summer 2022. (See attachment) (Requested by Mayor Rossi)

Ayes All

q) Motion made by Trustee Baskin seconded by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez that the pool director be approved for \$16.50 per hour, the assistant director for \$14.25 per hour, swimming instructors at \$13.55 per hour and day guards at \$13.50 per hour.

Ayes All

r) Motion made by Trustee Kormos, seconded by Trustee Raymond to direct the Mayor to look into the logistics and schedule the July 11, July 25, August 8, and August 22, 2022, Village Board of Trustee meetings at locations throughout the community as an outreach effort to bring Village meetings to residents. Locations may include outdoor venues with appropriate pavilion coverage and/or indoor sites. Streaming of meetings must be preserved; the Mayor will have by Thursday, June 30, 2022, to determine whether or not streaming is feasible. If streaming is not available, the meetings will be held as usual in the Library. (Requested by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez)

Ayes All

s) Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee Kormos that the first public comment period in village board meetings be expanded to include both Agenda Items for Consideration before the Board, and any other village business and be limited to 3 minutes per speaker and that the second public comment period also be limited to 3 minutes per speaker. (Requested by Trustee Baskin)

Ayes All

t) Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee Raymond that the Village Board formally request the Board of the Saratoga County Fairgrounds to consider at one of its board meetings the potential sale of fairground land to the Village for the Village DPW, and to inform the Village of its level of interest in pursuing such a sale. (Requested by Trustee Baskin)

Trustee VanDeinse-Perez- no

Trustee Raymond-yes

Trustee Baskin-yes

Trustee Kormos-yes

Mayor Rossi-no

Motion Passed

u) Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez, seconded by Trustee Baskin to bring back the motion that was tabled earlier tonight.

Ayes All

v) Motion made by Trustee Baskin, seconded by Trustee Raymond accepting the Professional Services Agreement between LaBella Associates, D.P.C. ("LaBella") and the Village of Ballston Spa for LaBella to provide engineering services to the Village from June 1, 2022 through May 31, 2023, and authorizing the Mayor to execute the agreement not to exceed the rate schedule . the rate is not to exceed 3% from the 2021-2022 rate schedule. (See attachment) (Requested by Trustee Raymond)

Ayes All

12) Other Business

None

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

Peter Martin of 20 Chesterwood Court urged the Board to let the Ethics Committee do their job.

Mr. Otten asked the Board to attend Family Fun Day in order to support the Village.

Donna Duffy, 21 Division Street feels the DPW should remain where they are.

Christine Fitzpatrick of 31 Chapman Street feels there is a battle for control going on with the agenda.

Donna Martin, 20 Chesterwood Court commended the Board for compromising on the public comment periods and asked that everyone be held to the timeframes.

Mark Blech of 10 Thompson Street provided details on Family Fun Day, noting that food, bouncy houses, and a petting zoo are some of the activities planned. The Refrigerators will provide music.

Mr. Bush also urged the Board to stay out of the ethic’s code revisions.

Keith Lewis, 38 East High Street thanked the Board for doing a selfless job.

14) Board Comments, Questions, and Concerns

Trustee Baskin noted that there will be a meeting on 6/28 in the Library conference room beginning at 5:30pm to discuss Wiswall Park.

Mayor Rossi spoke about roles and responsibilities of Mayor’s and Boards.

15) Adjournment/Voucher Audit:

Motion made by Trustee VanDeinse-Perez seconded by Trustee _Raymond, that the Vouchers No. 22-01659 to 22-02292 and 23-00002 to 23-00074 be audited and the meeting adjourned at 10:32pm.

Vouchers- FY2022

General Fund	\$ 61,925.10
Sewer Relevy	605.17
Capital Projects Funds	68,411.10
Library Fund	11,119.72
Trust & Agency	<u>12,699.53</u>
Total	\$ 154,760.62

Vouchers- FY2023

General Fund	\$ 257,928.71
Sewer Relevy	19,419.11
Library Fund	12,442.47
Trust & Agency	<u>2,199.49</u>
Total	\$ 291,989.78

Ayes All

Respectfully Submitted,

Teri L. O’Connor
Village Clerk