

THE RUSHVILLE VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

March 6, 2017

DATE: 3/6/17

TIME: 7:00

PLACE: The Rushville Village Hall

PRESENT: Mayor: John Sawers

Trustees: Holly Krossber, Kimberly Payne, Dave Masters, Mark Fargo

Code Enforcement Officer- Excused due to illness

Clerk: Joanne Burley, Deputy Clerk: Leslie Jones

Village Attorney: Tom Blair

MRB Rep: Greg Hotaling

ATTENDANCE: Approximately 25 people attended meeting. Sign in sheet is available in Village office

Re: Board Meeting – Salute to the Flag:

At 7:00 p.m. the Mayor opened the regular board meeting by having everyone rise to salute the flag.

Mayor Sawers thanked everyone for coming. He stated the following: We appreciate you taking the time to attend our meeting and welcome your comments. If you would like to share your thoughts with the board, please state your name and address and please limit your comments to 2 minutes please. This will keep the comment period to a reasonable length and still allow everyone who wishes an opportunity to speak.

Re: Communications, Petitions & Guests:

Mayor Sawers introduced Ken Seeling, Village Historian to present his annual report for the History Room.

Ken reported the Wall of Honor have increased from 670 to 685 over the last 12 months. They presently have 8 volunteers that have donated 3219 hours over the last 12 months. The History room has had 532 visitors for 2016. This is down but he feels it is because the schools no long sent elementary field trips to the History room.

Nancy Elwell has taken over the Society News Letter after Jim Rice's passing. She has put out 3 publications in the last 11 months.

The hours for the History Room are still the same as they have been and welcome visitor's.

They have also assisted several people with their family genealogical research.

Six banners honoring our veterans were displayed for the first time on the village streets. They will continue to add to these banners.

Ken's full report is available at the Village Office.

Re: Approval of Minutes:

The Mayor asked the Trustees if they had a chance to review the minutes from the February meeting. There were 2 minutes to approve in Feb. The 6th and the 20th Special meeting. He asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Trustee Holly Krossber made a motion to accept the minutes from the February meetings. Trustee Kim Payne 2nd the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

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Re: Reports of Committees:

Re: Public Works Supervisor – Art Rilands

Streets:

Art reported they are still working on equipment. Just the cemetery mowers are left to do. There are 2 trees on Castle St. that are in bad shape and probably will need to be taken down. NYSEG has said they haven't had time to address this yet.

Question from Trustee Holly Krossber. She asked how much of Douglas Dr. is dedicated? Art said that all the utilities are dedicated. The street is dedicated where the blacktop ends.

Sewer:

Pump at the Sewer plant on Warehouse St. has been replaced with our spare. I have an estimate to have the original pump repaired. If the pump doesn't work nothing works. Mayor Sawers asked for a motion to let Art have the pump repaired at a cost of \$3,276. Trustee Dave Masters made the motion to have Art take the pump for repair. Trustee Kim Payne 2nd the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

Water:

There is a water leak on Chapel St. which they will be repairing this week. The painting at the water plant has been completed.

The Dept. of Labor has been back again to check the Meter pit at the water tank. There was a question on it being a confined space structure. After his inspection, DOL has decided that it's not a confined space structure.

Fire

The new Fire Truck has been lettered. It is not in service yet. They are waiting for the service person to come and inspect it. He said it will probably be 2 to 3 weeks. The Mayor announced Paul Moberg had been to the office last Friday and said when they had the work completed he would set up a time for the board to come and see the new truck.

Re: Code Enforcement officer, Reggie O'Hearn: Excused due to illness.

Reggie was not here tonight but he sent his report.

The Mayor read his report.

There is still continued violation on 9 Chapel St.

8 Rubin Dr. is in the process of being treated for bed bugs. Some has been corrected.

Permits issued – 7 Bassett St. – roof

No changes on 3 Rubin Dr. fire. They are proposing replacing it at some point.

Re: MRB:

Greg Hotaling was here to update us on the Sewer Project. Condition of the sewer bed is still down a filter bed. The flow is up over what it should be. He came down to be sure we set up a special board meeting to complete the SEQR process which we started on 2/20. He is suggesting the week of the 3/27. He is hoping for the 29th. At that meeting we should be able to complete the 3rd part of the application. We can also coordinate our Bond Counsel. The Mayor asked if we need to get the authorizations for work signed. Yes, if we could get the individuals online so when the application is done we can continue with our application for the Rural Dev. Greg asked if they have any questions on the papers. Trustee Kim Payne asked if the corrections were made to the application and the response was yes they had been corrected.

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Greg said we need to get the Tim McGill's proposal signed as he will be submitting our proposal for funding.

Atty. Tom Blair suggested the board to set a date for the Special Meeting. Trustee Kim Payne made a motion to have a special meeting on March 29th @ 5:30 at the Village Hall. Trustee Dave Masters made a 2nd to the motion. Motion was unanimously carried.

Atty. Tom Blair asked Greg about the Tim McGill proposal. Greg gave us an amended project budget which included disinfection. Not necessarily a requirement but it will eventually be a requirement. It is better to put all these items in the grant. We can always pair it back if we have to. Once we hear back from our grant applications. He would recommend that we stick with that as we can always go smaller. It is hard to go bigger with a project. The total was \$2.4 Million for the project.

Mayor asked for a motion to authorization the signing the contracts needed to move forward. A motion was made by Trustee Holly Krossber to authorize the Mayor to sign to proposals. A 2nd was received from Trustee Dave Masters. The motion was unanimously carried.

Greg asked if there were any questions. He said the worst thing you can do is get handed another capitol project in 7 years after you have just done one.

Mr. Grover stood up and said he is planning on a rental project outside the village. It will be a 15 to 20 units. Asked who he would talk to about tying into the sewer project. The Mayor said it would be us, but it is still early in the project to determine if this was possible. Greg said our I & I was within the limits. He explained to the group what I & I is. The DEC would probably be the one to determine that.

Question was asked by Jon Bagley what the sewer rates would look like with the new project. Greg reported he gave the village a worst case scenario. Mr. Bagley asked what the worst case scenario is. Greg said Rural Dev. has a target service charge. The median household income was found to be \$39,500. 1 ½ % which works out to \$590 annually. Mr. Bagley asked if we had explored the thought of sharing the service with Gorham. Greg responded that they had not investigated that possibility.

Mary Colf asked if the rate would be going up double. It was explained it was an annual charge not a monthly charge.

Trustee Holly Krossber asked if our rate being so low could that affect our chances of getting a lower rate for grants from Rural Dev. We might not be eligible because our rates are low. Greg said yes that we should consider raising our rates now to show that we are trying to raise increase our rates to the average standard rate.

Greg said he was available to answer any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Greg left the meeting.

Re: Reading Center Director – Dodie Baker

Dodie thanked the board for letting her take her Volunteers out to lunch. There were 9 that attended. All very appreciative.

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March 8th – Dodie will be at a “Build a Better World” workshop all day. Regarding the summer read.

Library is hosting snowflake cutting class on March 18th. Contact her with info.

She has purchased several graphic novels for the kids section in the Library. Please come and see them.

Any questions for Dodie. No response.

Re: New Business:

We have received and accepted a new petition to Dissolve the Village. We will now move on to the referendum. Clerk Joanne Burley said we have 30 days to set the referendum date. We have to pass a resolution to set the referendum date. Trustee Dave Masters made the motion to pass a resolution to set the referendum. Trustee Holly Krossber seconded that motion. All in favor. The motion was unanimously carried.

Trustee Dave Masters said that we now have 60-90 days to set the date.

Trustee Holly Krossber asked if we were looking for a motion to apply for Dissolution costs. She asked if this was just for costs, not for anything specific.

The Clerk is asking for approval to apply for the Grant for Dissolution cost. Trustee Holly Krossber made the motion for Joanne to apply for the grant for Dissolution costs. Trustee Dave Masters 2nd that motion. Motion was passed unanimously.

Re: Old Business:

Martin Building:

The Mayor asked Holly to update us on the Martin Building.

Trustee Holly Krossber announced that the wrestlers have removed every they wanted from the building and releases are being exchanged.

Fire Contracts:

We have received our fire contracts – Town of Potter - \$12,900. - Town of Gorham - \$30,530. These are the contracts from each of the towns for 2017. Trustee Holly Krossber made a motion to approve the contracts. A second was received from Trustee Kim Payne. The motion was unanimously carried.

The Mayor opened the floor to questions or comments.

Marla Lapin 67 N. Main St. – What is going to happen to the sewer study? Atty Tom Blair responded to the question. It is really a sewer project not a sewer study. We will continue on schedule as rates will go up and it will end up costing the Village more. So we will continue as schedule .

The Village board will move forward as the project needs to move forward.

Trustee Holly Krossber commented she had asked the same question at a meeting she was at and the person applying for our grant is also worried about that. These people read the papers and know that dissolution is a possibility and she is nervous about that too.

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Anne Grover – 59 Gilbert St. – Will the lower income survey effect the grants if the Village should dissolve. Trustee Holly Krossber commented she had asked that question of Greg and if the Town of Gorham took over it could change things as their median income would probably be higher.

Mark Stash – 44 Gilbert St. – What is the timeline for the vote for dissolution and is there any type of study being done. Trustee Kim Payne said we have just gotten the petition and we have not made any decisions as of yet. We have 60 to 90 days for the vote. The Mayor mentioned we will have a public meeting before that.

Jamie Landcastle – 24 Gilbert St. – Jamie asked about the process the Village has to go through for the Dissolution.

Mary Colf – 69 N. Main St. – The village residents will be paying for the sewer. The Town of Gorham or Potter won't be paying for the sewer correct. Atty. Tom Blair commented that is a very complicated question. It would have to be discussed at the time of dissolution by the Towns.

Trustee Holly Krossber noted that if we do a plan the towns would not have to go by our plan. Atty. Tom Blair commented it is so early it is hard to tell.

Bob Walker – 67 N. Main St. – Will we have the proper information so we can make the decision of whether to not dissolve or to dissolve. Trustee Kim Payne said we will be holding information meetings before the vote. Atty. Tom Blair said it is so early that the Trustees are not able to answer any questions on fact at this time. On March 29th the referendum date will be set and you will have one or two dates for informational meeting.

Jon Bagley – 34 N. Main St. – He wanted to talk about MRB group. That it would be a conflict of interest. He referred to an article regarding our speakers from MRB at our last meeting. He wanted us to know that there are other companies that have more experience than MRB. Another thing about MRB group knew what our sewer rates were low right from the beginning. Trustee Holly Krossber asked if he has had a study done from a group and would he be willing to share that with the board. He said that would be something the board would have to do and he could give the board a name to contact. She asked what the name of the company that he had talked to. He commented that the name was CGR. Trustee Krossber said that she had talked to a Town Supervisor who informed her that CGR did a study of a village located in his town and at their informational meeting CGR could only answer half of the questions presented to them and that it was a waste of money. Jon Bagley asked her the name of the Village and Trustee Krossber said Depew. Correction was made 4/3/17 to the Village of Medina.

Genevieve Martin – Genevieve informed the board that she felt that there was a conflict of interest when the Martin Bldgs. were taken from the Martin family. The Mayor used the Estates Atty Carl Schwartz, when paying the taxes and purchased the Martin buildings.

The Mayor asked for a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel/payroll. A motion was made by Mark Fargo was made to go into Executive Session to discuss payroll. A 2nd was received by Dave Masters. Motion was unanimously passed. The board went into executive session at 7:55 pm.

At 8:20pm. Trustee Holly Krossber made a motion to resume the regular meeting. A 2nd was received by Dave Masters. The motion was unanimously passed.

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The Mayor said we now need to pay the bills.

Re Bills:

A motion was made by Trustee Holly Krossber and seconded by Trustee Mark Fargo to authorize payment of the General Bills in the amount of \$14,060.36. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Dave Masters and seconded by Trustee Holly Krossber

to approve the Cemetery bills in the amount of \$124.22. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Kim Payne and seconded by Trustee Holly Krossber to authorize payment of the water bills in the amount of \$3050.09. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Kimberly Payne and seconded by Trustee Dave Masters to authorize the payment of the Sewer bills in the amount of \$7,907.25. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Kim Payne to adjourn the meeting . A second was made by Trustee Dave Masters. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm

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