

THE RUSHVILLE VILLAGE BOARD MEETING/PUBLIC HEARING

January 11, 2021

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DATE: 1/11/21

TIME: 7:00 pm

PLACE: The Rushville Village Hall

PRESENT: Mayor Dave LeClair, Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman, Trustee Doug Rigby, Trustee Karen Gorton, Trustee Mark Fargo, Clerk Jeannie Kesel, Deputy Clerk Joanne Burley, DPW Art Rilands, Reading Center Director Dodie Baker, Code Officer Tim Pagel,

Approximately 18 people attended the meeting (sign in sheet available at the Village Office)

The Mayor called the Board meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

RE: Salute to the Flag:

The Mayor asked everyone to rise and join in the Pledge to the Flag.

RE: Approval of Minutes:

The Mayor asked the Trustees if they had any corrections to the board minutes from the October 19, 2020 meeting. Trustee Mark Fargo made a motion to approve the December 14, 2020 minutes. Trustee Doug Rigby made a 2nd to the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

RE: Mayors Report:

Mayor Dave LeClair gave his Mayor's report as follows:

- The Mayor spoke about shared services. He has participated and voted by resolution to accept the Ontario County Property Tax Savings Plan 2021. The plan attached lays out the framework where a municipality can tap into a shared service plan aimed at tax savings for residents. A description of all the services is attached. The Village will begin its own internal assessment and see if any of these services can be beneficial to Rushville.
- COVID update – cases continue to increase; however, we are still not in a yellow or higher risk zone. In the Village Hall 6-foot distancing and masks are required where needed. We continue to clean surfaces and sanitize as needed. The Mayor has contacted Shane Keyser, Village IT Specialist to see about setting up Zoom or Webex platforms for public meetings.
- The Village received a letter dated 12/29/20 from Ron Spike from the Yates County Sheriff's Office. This is in response to the governor's order EO-203 NYS Police Reform and Reinventive Collaboration. This law is aimed at increasing public trust and eliminating questionable practices. Sheriff Spike is asking Yates county communities to provide feedback on policies, enforcement and any special needs we may have. Their office has to respond to NYDS Division of Budget by April 2021 submitting the required plan for state aid. Please feel free to offer suggestions/criticisms or positive feedback. The Mayor will respond with a letter on behalf of Rushville. He is very happy with the service Yates and Ontario County provides.
- 7 North Main Lost Sock Laundry -The Mayor has received a request from Jon Bagley for reduction in his sewer use rate for the Laundromat. This is just for Board discussion tonight. The sewer ordinance is roughly 33 years old. The Mayor suggested the Board consider a flat charge of 4 units until such time a comprehensive review and be completed factoring in water usage. It was suggested that there be an overall sewer review update. Trustee Karen Gorton felt it's important to keep the business in the Village for the residents.

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She does not want to see the building vacant. Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman said that there was no resolution or public hearing regarding the rate change in 2011. She also said there is a big bill for the Waste Water Treatment plant for many years and it's important to keep that in mind. Trustee Mark Fargo and Trustee Karen Gorton agreed to be on a committee to review rates. They will bring back to the Board next month their findings with a possible vote in March.

- The Mayor said there is still not acceptable bid for the fire truck. The Village may need to weigh the cost of accepting a low bid versus maintenance and insurance on a truck that remains in storage.
- The Mayor received a memo from the Village attorney, Tom Blair. Tom is suggesting a review of all of our local laws. This will be discussed at a later date.
- Public Health Emergency Plan – Trustee Chandra Gilman continues to work on the emergency plan. This plan is required by NYS Law to be filed with the Village Clerk by April 1, 2021.
- The Village recently closed on a short-term financing loan in the amount of \$1,787,948.00 Note #RST-1, Project #C86470-01-00. This will be rolled into a final bond after completion of all the work in 2023 at 2.667% interest for 30 years. It was discussed that a sewer rate adjustment will be needed after an evaluation of the local law and existing sewer rents before 2025. Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman suggested that a gradual rate increase takes the sting out of it. This project received \$4.9 million in grant money. The village owes a huge debt of gratitude to Emily Palumbos from MRB for all of her expertise with the grants for this project. The village's payback is \$1.9 million.
- The Mayor suggested the Village might need to replace the chairs. The Mayor said there is money in the budget to purchase some chairs. Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman said she was worried about spending the money with everything going on without knowing the tax money we are getting from Ontario County. Trustee Mark Fargo suggested getting a fan for the meeting room. Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman also suggested an air purifier.
- The Mayor recognized the dedication and service of the Rushville Historical Society members. The Mayor will provide recognition at next month's meeting.
- The new ZBA met Friday, January 8, 2021 to review an application for an area variance for Sandra and Joe Federico.
- 2 Rushville families each received a \$250 Christmas check which were very appreciated. Dave LeClair and Mark Fargo delivered the checks.
- The Mayor will be working with the new Planning Board members on training and acknowledged the work and commitment Jamie Landcastle and Ed Gilman have shown for training opportunities.
- NYCOM has seminars available – let Jeannie know if any board members would like to take classes.

The Mayor asked if there were any comments from the audience. No Comments.

RE: Reports of Committees:

RE: Public Works Supervisor

Water:

- Yearly water samples were collected. Will start changing some meters soon.
- Started cleaning and painting at the water plant.
- Yates County Sheriff removed their patrol boat, they dock it with us every year.

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Sewer:

- The contractor is done until spring restoration.
- Still have a few more tanks to get pumped. Looks like the Village will be using a new guy to pump the tanks.
- The new sewer jetter (pipe cleaner) has been ordered. The cost is \$66,000 which will be covered by the grant.

Streets:

- Working on equipment and cleaning the barn.
- Haven't had to do much sanding and plowing due to the mild weather.
- COVID hit Middlesex highway 3-4 weeks ago. The Village helped out.

Cemetery:

- No report this month

RE: Village Hall Report:

- No report this month

RE: Fire Report:

- The Fire Chief, Paul Moberg did advertise the truck. Bids still well below asking price.
- Fire department responded to a car accident last week. Used the hydraulic tool to get the victim out. It's an expensive tool, but important to have.
- Fire Department currently has 25 active members and needs new gear for 21 members. Paul is applying for the AFR grant for new gear.
- Paul would like to add \$20,000 into the budget for a replacement truck.
- Firemen should be offered COVID shots in the next two weeks.
- Chicken BBQ for Superbowl Sunday will be discussed at their meeting on Tuesday, January 12th. Due to COVID it might be cancelled.

RE: Reading Center Director:

- You may view the Coloring contest pages at the library.
- Hours during January Mon. & Wed. 3-7, Fri. 1-5 and Sat. 9-1. Library will be opened on Jan. 18th, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.
- Dodie attended a virtual workshop on Young Adult books (YA). STLS sent 10 new Young Adult titles.
- On Jan. 7, 2021 all libraries met with the library system to discuss next steps for moving forward with the MWSD budget vote and chartering for Middlesex and Rushville.
- Dodie will attend a Virtual Advocacy Storytelling workshop on Wed, January 20, 2021.
- Dodi attended a virtual workshop on Young Adult books (YA). STLS will be sending some book titles to help Dodie choose some YA authors as she updates that section of the library.

RE: Code Enforcement officer:

- Tim stated he had been working on the code violations at 9 Chapel Street. An Order to Remedy has been sent.
- He is looking at the new Battery Energy Storage System guidelines for solar and/or wind energy generation.
- He is working with Kevin Smith on the renovation of 13 Railroad Avenue.

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RE: Clerk:

- No report this month

New Business:

- No report this month

Old Business:

Martin Buildings:

The Martin building mortgage is in place. Working on the insurance for the building.

WWTP:

A motion was made by Trustee Doug Rigby and seconded by Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman to authorize payment to Fineline Pipeline, Inc. in the amount of \$28,310.00. The motion was unanimously carried.

Re Bills:

A motion was made by Trustee Mark Fargo and seconded by Trustee Doug Rigby to authorize payment of the General Bills in the amount of \$11,067.21. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor a Chandra Gilman and seconded by Trustee Mark Fargo to authorize payment of the Water bills in the amount of \$5,193.44. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Trustee Doug Rigby and seconded by Trustee Karen Gorton to authorize the payment of the Sewer bills in the amount of \$2,622.33. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman and seconded by Trustee Doug Rigby to authorize the payment of the Capital Project bills in the amount of \$37,872.04. The motion was unanimously carried.

A motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Mark Fargo a 2nd was received from Trustee Doug Rigby. The motion was unanimously passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

A motion to convene to Executive Session to discuss existing and potential litigation with the Town of Middlesex was made by Trustee Mark Fargo a 2nd was received from Trustee Doug Rigby. The motion was unanimously passed.

A motion to open board meeting was made by Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman and seconded by Trustee Mark Fargo. The motion was unanimously passed. The meeting was opened at 8:40 pm

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A motion to adjourn was made by Deputy Mayor Chandra Gilman a 2nd was received from Trustee Karen Gorton. The motion was unanimously passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeannie Kesel, Clerk/Treasurer