

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Village of Delhi was held **Monday, April 17, 2023** at 6:00 p.m. at Village Hall.

The meeting started at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Mayor: Jeffrey Gearhart
Trustees: Jeremy Fitch, Ian Lamont, Janet Tweed and Barbara Sturdevant

Guests: Jim Smart, Cindie Smart, Ann-Lis Glenn, Lillian Browne, PJ Harmer

Privilege of the floor was granted to:

Ana-Lis Glenn (Stamford) – SUNY Delhi O'Connor Center – introduced herself, she replaced Michele DeFreece. She is coordinating a community service day this Saturday (4/22/2023) with the students on campus – there are currently 25 project sites planned.

PJ Harmer – wanted to congratulate Mayor Jeff Gearhart and Trustee Barb Sturdevant.

Mayor Jeff Gearhart thanked Jim & Cindie Smart for what they do by cleaning up litter in our Village

Trustee Jeremy Fitch wanted to thank Delhi Fire Dept. for their assistance Wednesday (4/12/2023) with cleaning sidewalks in the Village (business district) – they were able to practice / drills – hose training and they would like to do this annually.

Motion was made by Trustee Lamont to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2023 regular Board meeting. Motion was seconded by Trustee Janet Tweed. Trustee Sturdevant abstained as she was not present at this meeting. All other board members approved and motion passed.

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch to approve the minutes of the April 3, 2023 Organizational meeting. Motion was seconded by Trustee Lamont and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch to approve Abstract #012 dated April 17, 2023 in the amount of \$52,637.77 (General fund \$10,571.29, Water fund \$13,360.14, Sewer fund \$28,096.48, and Joint Activities fund \$609.86. Motion was seconded by Trustee Tweed and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Trustee Lamont to accept the Bingo Inspection Report dated 3/15/2023, Police Report dated February 2023, Street Report dated April 2023, Water Report dated 3/30/2023, Sewer Report dated March 30, 2023, Code Enforcement Officer's Report dated February 24 – March 28, 2023, Treasurers Report for February 2023 and March 2023, and Clerk's Report dated 4/17/2023, and Historian Report dated March 2023. Motion was seconded by Trustee Fitch and passed unanimously.

Bill Brown was present and reported on the following items:

Andes Road Sewer Extension, Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WIIA Funding), and NYSDOH Fluoride Grant.

Trustee Fitch reported for the Police Committee.

No report this month.

Trustee Tweed reported for the Public Works Committee.

Trustee Lamont indicated that the Water Department is looking to purchase a stand up tamper they will need for several projects being done for water and street departments.

Motion was made by Trustee Lamont to authorize the Water Department to purchase the tamper per the quote of \$2,650 from Admar. Motion was seconded by Trustee Tweed and passed unanimously.

Mayor Gearhart reported on the beaver problem at Spring Lake. Jay took the top layer of the beaver dam from Spring Lake but we don't want to release too much water at once as it will cause damage below. Jay has also contacted DEC for permit for the beavers and a list of trappers in the area. There was discussion of beaver problems also on Delaware Avenue and Delview Terrace.

PJ Harmer spoke about the Woolerton Street Park and the issue with vehicles crossing from Woolerton Street to get to Franklin Street. There was some concern that vehicle traffic needed to be stopped. Mayor Gearhart indicated that Jay has ordered two tonka blocks as a temporary solution for this issue.

Discussion was had by the Village Board of increasing the Water, Sewer and CAP rates by 15%, effective 6/1/2023, as per the new budget.

Motion was made by Trustee Lamont to approve increasing Water, Sewer and CAP rates by 15% effective 6/1/2023. Motion was seconded by Trustee Sturdevant and passed unanimously.

Discussion was had by the Village board regarding paying tax to our employees under the Boot Reimbursement under the Teamster contract. Mayor Gearhart had spoken to our Village attorney and he didn't see a problem as the employees are not tax exempt.

Trustee Tweed mentioned that the rotary "little library" will be installed.

Mayor Gearhart mentioned that Captain Small and he recently attended the Legislative event in Downsville and were able to meet with 4 representatives that were present.

Trustee Tweed reported for the Parks & Recreation Committee.

Trustee Tweed reported that Phase 1 will be done May 5, 2023 and the students should finish the raised bed by the end of the semester.

Sheldon Garden – Jessi Raber – pavilion in front of community garden – laying pad – Daren to get quote for materials.

Jessi Raber was unable to attend our board meeting this evening but emailed Mayor Gearhart and the rest of the village board.

Mayor Gearhart indicated that Jay was going to install a water meter so that we will know how much water is used for watering the gardens and perhaps opening the bathrooms at a later date.

Motion was made by Trustee Lamont to authorize Mayor to sign acceptance for the following

O'Connor grants: \$1,000 2023 Summer Youth Tennis program; \$1,000 2023 Summer Youth Basketball program and \$1,000 2023 Summer Youth Volleyball program. Motion was seconded by Trustee Tweed and passed unanimously.

The Village Board wanted to thank O'Connor Foundation for their continued support of Village of Delhi recreation programs.

It was discussed that we are looking for basketball director – that Village should place this information on our Facebook page to see if someone might be interested in running the Basketball program for the summer 2023 season.

Trustee Tweed reported for the Joint Services, Recreation Committee.

Trustee Tweed reported there is a Shared Services meeting next week.

Mayor Gearhart reported for the Codes, Building & Planning Committee.

It was reported that 185 Main Street has cleared the items they were issued court appearance ticket for. Tom met with the owners representative.

Discussion and motion to authorize Clerk's office to advertise for bids to hire a contractor to handle lawn maintenance for village properties.

Motion was made by Trustee Tweed to authorize the Clerk's office to advertise for bids to hire a contractor to handle lawn maintenance for violation lawns in the Village of Delhi. Motion was seconded by Trustee Fitch and passed unanimously. It was noted that bids should be submitted by May 8, 2023 by noon so that we can award this at the May 2023 meeting.

Trustee Lamont mentioned we have scheduled another public workshop for the Zoning Review Committee and the minimum parking requirements.

Mayor Gearhart indicated that he is working with Eastman on the steps at Village Hall and Delta for the Village Hall building plans.

There was mention among the Village Board that Dominick Morales was willing to be our tree auditor but doesn't want to be responsible for any liability. Mayor will check with our Village attorney. Trustee Lamont mentioned perhaps we could do something through WAC and their forestry program for a tree auditor.

Trustee Sturdevant reported for the Finance Committee.

Trustee Sturdevant indicated there are two motion needed relating to the Williamons Law Book annual software support contracts.

Motion was made by Trustee Sturdevant to approve the Mayor to sign the Annual Software Support contract with Williamson Law Book Company for Water/Sewer billing software and directing the Clerk to remit payment for said contract in the amount of \$1,243.00 with the cost being split between the water and sewer funds. Motion was seconded by Trustee Fitch and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch to approve the Mayor to sign the Annual Software Support contract with Williamson Law Book Company for Water/Sewer email billing with Water QuickPay

software and directing the Clerk to remit payment for said contract in the amount of \$880.00 with the cost being split between the water and sewer funds. Motion was seconded by Trustee Tweed and passed unanimously.

The Clerk asked the Village Board for a motion directing her to move consent order fees from the industries to the reserve account.

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch directing the Village Clerk to transfer \$47,500 of consent order fees received from Saputo from Sewer checking (G200) to G234 (WWTP Reserve). Motion was seconded by Trustee Lamont and passed unanimously.

Discussion was had about allowing the Deputy Clerk to add a payment to the abstract for Christopher Hillis in the amount of \$549.81 for a bill he received today. The board was okay to do this on a one time basis as we just changed our meeting night but didn't want to make a habit of this – bills need to be received by our deadline.

Motion was made by Trustee Lamont to allow payment to Christopher Hillis in the amount of \$549.81 under voucher #644. Motion was seconded by Trustee Fitch and passed unanimously.

Discussion was also had that board packets will be available the Thursday prior to the board meeting at noon.

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch to enter executive session for discussions regarding proposed, pending or current litigation. Motion was seconded by Trustee Tweed and executive session started at 8:34 PM.

Motion was made by Trustee Lamont to exit executive session. Motion was seconded by Trustee Tweed and the board went back to open session at 9:01 PM.

Trustee Fitch indicated he would like to approve the soap box derby held during Fair on the Square July 28, 2023 for the purpose of coverage under the Village of Delhi insurance as a Village project.

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch to cover the soap box derby July 28, 2023 on the Village of Delhi insurance policy. Motion was seconded by Trustee Lamont and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Trustee Lamont and passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Cairns
Clerk-Treasurer