

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees for the Village of Delhi was held **Tuesday, January 21, 2025** at 6:00 pm at Village Hall.

The meeting started at 6:03 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Guests: Elizabeth DeFalco, The Reporter; Maya Boukai, Town of Delhi Supervisor; Bill Brown and Deb Fleming

Deb Fleming – Village signs – spoke about sign options for Village Hall once the painting has been completed in the spring. She said she has found Gemini signs to be very good. She will need to measure the front of Village Hall again but she quoted 18” letters “Delhi Village Hall, ¾” thick. Many colors are available as well as fonts. The price would be approximately \$2,500 but she will issue us a price quote once the front of the village is measured to firm up our pricing.

Deb Fleming also spoke about the “Welcome to Delhi” signs. There are 5 entrances to the Village, with a sign at each entrance. After some discussion, the board decided they would like Deb to give them several design options and quotes for the 5 signs.

Maya Boukai spoke about the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) funding for ARC READY grants to grow initiative. Maya is looking for a commitment from each participant for the 9 weeks of training, 6 weeks for local topics/issues. The grant is due 2/14/2025.

Trustee Sturdevant indicated that she wanted to be involved in the ARC READY grants to Grow Initiative.

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch to authorize the Mayor to sign a letter of support on behalf of Village of Delhi for the ARC funding initiative. Motion was seconded by Trustee Lamont and passed unanimously.

Bill Brown of Delaware Engineering was present and reported on the Lead Service Line Inventory and Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WIIA Funding).

Bill indicated that we are waiting to hear from the state with the grant agreement for the Lead Service Line – we will have approximately 18 users with lead lines to address. Bill also indicated that we will reapply for the WIIA Funding with EFC for our water project.

Motion was made by Trustee Sturdevant to approve the minutes of the December 17 2024 regular meeting. Motion was seconded by Trustee Fitch and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch to approve Abstract #008 dated January 21, 2025 in the amount of \$188,056.20 (General fund \$40,530.34, Water fund \$12,883.60, Sewer fund \$88,554.86, Joint Activity fund \$7.20 and Trust & Agency fund \$46,080). Motion was seconded by Trustee Tweed and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Trustee Sturdevant to accept the Police Report dated December 2024, Street Report dated January 2025, Water Report dated 1/16/2025, Sewer Report dated January 14, 2025, Code Enforcement Report 12/11/2024 – 1/14/2025, Treasurers report dated December 2024, Clerk Report dated January 21, 2025 and Historian report dated 1/20/2025. Motion was seconded by Trustee Lamont and passed unanimously.

Trustee Fitch reported for the **Police Committee**

SUCO Range use policy – Trustee Tweed indicated that the police committee will meet and draft a policy for use of the range to be approved at the 2/18/2025 meeting.

Trustee Tweed also indicated that the police committee is working on the noise issue to update police policy to address this issue.

Mayor Gearhart indicated the police vehicle (2022 Durango) electronic rotary shifter with control module was repaired and was covered under the vehicle warranty.

Mayor Gearhart also indicated that Courtney @ Roemer has the details and will be pursuing eviction and house being unavailable to be used for rental. If the landlord deals promptly with evicting the tenants, Village will discontinue the court proceedings thus allowing the property owner to continue renting to new tenants.

Mayor Gearhart reported for the **Public Works Committee**.

Sidewalk snow removal – Trustee Fitch indicated that he felt we should give warnings this year because of the fact that Village of Delhi didn't advertise in October as required under Village Code §218-19 Snow and Ice Removal - Publication of provisions.

Motion was made by Trustee Lamont to 1) Transfer \$2,000 from Street reserve for 2009 F250 Truck that was auctioned and 2) transfer \$23,000 from Sewer to Water for the 2019 Ford F150 as this was transferred to the Sewer Department, instead of being used as a trade-in when we purchased the new Water vehicle. Motion was seconded by Trustee Tweed and passed unanimously.

Trustee Sturdevant indicated reported for the **Joint Services Committee** this month but deferred to Mayor & Deputy Mayor as she was unsure of the details for the item on the agenda

Dog Warden – Chris Bodo – Trustee Fitch spoke of having Chris sign an oath of office with Village of Delhi and pay a portion of his salary. After reviewing the Town of Delhi budget, dog control officer is paid under the Townwide budget so Village residents are already contributing to the budget for dog control. Mayor Gearhart will contact the Village attorney and/or NYCOM to figure out issue regarding dog warden.

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

Bishop building update – Josh Morgan, Code Enforcement Officer, contacted Ben Decker, who is doing the work for Bishop – work is continuing.

Discussion regarding Court Street – Mayor Gearhart asked the board – do we proceed with study? Trustee Sturdevant said that she didn't feel it was worth paying for a study just to gain 4 parking spots. Mayor Gearhart indicated that the issue is the flow and congestion problem in the village during Farmer's Market. Trustee Tweed felt we need a workshop with public input – perhaps in March to discuss this further.

Trustee Sturdevant reported for the **Finance Committee**

Motion was made by Trustee Sturdevant to accept the donation of \$5,000 from Helfgott-Renfroe

Foundation. Motion was seconded by Trustee Fitch. Trustee Lamont abstained from vote, as his wife sits on the foundation. All other board members were in favor. Motion was passed. Note on the donation was "Let us know how you use the money to bless our community!!"

Motion was made by Trustee Sturdevant to authorize Mayor to sign the Annual Software Support Contracts for the Accounting Software and the Payroll Software with Williamson Law Book Company and direct the Clerk to remit payment of \$1,205 for each of these renewal contracts. Motion was seconded by Trustee Fitch and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Trustee Tweed to authorize the Clerk to advertise for bids for heating oil, kerosene and propane for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. Motion was seconded by Trustee Lamont and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Trustee Sturdevant to authorize the Treasurer to establish an account with Delaware National Bank to deposit funds from the lead service line grant funds. Motion was seconded by Trustee Tweed and passed unanimously.

2025 – 2026 Budget Schedule – discussion was had and we decided to schedule Sewer budget meeting for 2/11/2025 at 6:00 PM. We will advertise for budget meeting and perhaps also handle some of the smaller budget this evening as well. We will schedule the other budgets at the 2/18/2025 board meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Zoning Review Board – January meeting was cancelled – next meeting is scheduled for 2/4/2025 at 5:00 PM.

Motion was made by Trustee Tweed to approve the Village of Delhi Special Event Permit Application. Motion was seconded by Trustee Fitch and passed unanimously.

IPAWS (Integrated Public Alert and Warning System) – Village Clerk is still waiting for paperwork from FEMA to get us set up.

NEW BUSINESS

Climate Smart Communities – Trustee Tweed reported that there is a "Delhi Repair Café" on Saturday, 1/25/2025 from 11 am – 3 pm @ Luck Dragon, 100 Main Street, Delhi, NY.

Mayor Gearhart indicated that the split in the boardroom was supposed to be installed today, was rescheduled to Thursday (1/23/2025) because of the frigid weather.

Motion was made by Trustee Tweed to appoint Ruth Vredenburg and Linda Malcolm as election inspectors for the March 18, 2025 Village elections. Motion was seconded by Trustee Sturdevant and passed unanimously.

Motion was made by Trustee Sturdevant to appoint Jeffrey Staples as alternate election inspector for the March 18, 2025 Village elections. Motion was seconded by Trustee Tweed and passed unanimously.

Delhi Kite Flying Festival – Mayor Gearhart mentioned that the festival is scheduled for April 26, 2025 from 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM. Mayor Gearhart also indicated that Nathan Goedel, Event Director, donated a kite to Village of Delhi for decorating. Mayor has reached out to Wendy Reid-Johnson @

Delaware Academy to see if they would like to have an art contest and the winner would be allowed to design the kite that represents Village of Delhi.

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch to surplus 2 air conditioners (from the Clerk's office and the boardroom). Motion was seconded by Trustee Tweed and passed unanimously.

Trustee Fitch indicated he is not sure what funding we will have for fireworks this year and asked if Mayor Gearhart could ask NYCLASS if they would be willing to sponsor.

Mayor's Report

Delaware County Council of Mayors last meeting was 1/8/2025 – next meeting is 2/12/2025.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing employment history of a particular person and contract negotiations (PBA). Motion was seconded by Trustee Tweed and executive session started at 8:50 pm.

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch to exit executive session. Motion was seconded by Trustee Lamont and the board went back to open session at 9:58 pm.

There was discussion by the village board to schedule a public hearing for proposed Local Law #1 of 2025 "Tax Cap Override".

Motion was made by Trustee Fitch to schedule public hearing 2/18/2025 at 6:00 PM for LL#1 of 2025 "Tax Cap Override". Motion was seconded by Trustee Lamont and passed unanimously.

Trustee Lamont indicated that Jay Decker was looking for approval to attend the New York Rural Water Annual Technical training 5/19/2025 – 5/21/2025.

Motion was made by Trustee Lamont to approve Jay Decker to attend Rural Water training 5/19/2025 – 5/21/2025. Motion was seconded by Trustee Tweed and passed unanimously.

Mayor Gearhart also wanted to commend Jay Decker and Street Department for their work on the water main break on Meredith Street.

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

Meeting adjourned at 10:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Cairns
Village Treasurer