

Minutes

Wednesday, August 3, 2022

Workshop meeting of the Village Board of Trustees

Present: Mayor Abrams

Trustees: David Flaherty
Dorene Weir
James Mark Browne
Susan Patterson

Also attending: Economic Development Director Renee Shur; Climate Smart Chair William Manicini; Charles Rothermel, Alexander Anderson.

Mayor Abrams opened the workshop meeting at 7:00 PM everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Long-term Financial Planning

Trustee Browne submitted a Multiyear Planning Initiative Project Status report to the Village Board showing the scope of work he and Jerry Callahan have worked on. He discussed where he and Jerry are on completing the scope and what they need to accomplish next.

Trustee Browne and Jerry Callahan have met separately with Clerk-Treasurer Heeder, Water Commissioner Dale Leiser, and Superintendent of Public Works David Booth and interfaced with Daniel Valentine from Tighe & Bond on water and roads. They met with trustee Weir on her portion of the budget and future proposed expenditures. They also attended a webinar from the New York State Comptroller on Multiyear Financial Planning.

They need to schedule a meeting with trustee Flaherty to review his budget and review the plan for Van Buren Hall. They will also meet with Trustee Patterson who inherited Trustee Browne's budget as a new trustee. They would like to meet with her to use her as the new trustee as a test case to draft a three page training document to assist new trustees on the village budget process.

Trustee Browne has been emphasizing the need for David Booth and Dale Leiser to submit the list of water lines and hardware to New York Rural Water Association (NYRWA) for them to complete a water analysis. Dave has assured Trustee Browne he will have the submission to him and NYRWA by Friday, August 5th. NYRWA will have the analysis completed by October for Jerry and Trustee Browne to add the water department's future needs to the villages financial planning.

Trustee Browne has spoken to DOT staff concerning the Albany Ave project. He is gathering items needed for the August 23rd meeting. The Albany Ave project is not fully funded and the Village will need to determine how the Village will fund the remaining portion of the project and replace the water lines under Albany Avenue. Mayor Abrams noted the Village has another chance of applying for the WIIA Grant possibly two chances depending on when the project breaks ground for the replace of the water lines. He reached out to Hudson Valley Engineering to update the engineering plans in preparation of the project and he spoke with Dan Valentine from Tighe & Bond who increased the pricing by 15% in the grant to cover the cost of pricing inflation in anticipation of submitting NYS WIIA grant application.

Mayor Abrams requested a support letter from the County Health Department for approval of the water project, New York Rural Water Association (NYRWA) and from elected government officials in support of the project.

Trustee Browne is working on the initial Albany Avenue paperwork at this time. He noted there are stages the Village will need to go through as the project moves forward. The stages are: Project Plan, Preliminary design, and final design prior to the start of construction in June of 2023. The project would not start until the construction contract is signed. The Village Board will need to determine how to fund the 20% (\$400,000 to \$500,000) of the project that is not covered by the grant over the next few years.

Q: Alexandra Anderson asked the following questions: When will the public see the proposed project? Will the project go through Historic Review with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) as required?.

A: The public will be involved in the initial design and will go through appropriate Historic Review.

Q: Will the grade of the road be corrected?

A: The grade of the road will be addressed.

Q: Does the proposed Albany Ave project end at Sunset Ave? When the water pipes get replaced will they replace water mains that are past Sunset Ave?

A: Yes, the Albany Ave project ends at Sunset Ave and the water mains will also be replaced up to Sunset Ave.

Chuck Rothermel stated the water mains on Sunset Ave are the old cast iron pipes. They go up to where the Wills had lived on Sunset Avenue they then switch to asbestos pipes. The pipes on Albany Ave to the top side of the cemetery are the old cast iron pipes from the 1920's.

Q: William Mancini inquired about the financial planning of the Albany Avenue project. Has Trustee Browne considered the energy analysis of the street lighting changing to LED lighting during the project.

A: Trustee Browne noted they have not gotten to the infrastructure portion of the project. Mayor Abrams noted street lighting may be considered in the future planning of the Village but Trustee Browne and Jerry are working on projects within the next three years.

Chuck Rothermel noted previous Village Boards fought National Grid to keep the old incandescent lights knowing there were grossly inefficient however some residents like the look of the lights. National Grid responded that the village can own the lights and gave all the parts to the village for future replacement.

Installation of Speed signs

The company the village purchased the signs from outsources the training and technical support needed to program the signs. Due to the Superintendent being out and support trouble, the village has not deployed the signs. The Superintendent is in the process of programming the signs and will be giving Trustee Browne the pole number to be given to Trustee Patterson to contact National Grid. Trustee Browne stated in some cases the signs can be moved to other poles in the future.

Kayak Launch

Trustee Weir spoke with Brad Sherwood from the Army Corps of Engineers who stated it was in both of the village's best interest to hire an environmental scientist to complete the forms required for the Army Corps of Engineering and ECON. The environmental scientist would conduct a site visit to determine what the village's DPW needed to do and what is needed to complete the required forms to be able to move forward with the project. An email was sent to the Valatie committee notifying them of this information. The kayak committee will reach out to

Barton & Loguidice requesting their Environmental scientist to give an estimate on the work to be performed.

Q: Alexandra Anderson asked due to the extreme water level changes in the creek what will the village do with the launches?

A: Trustee Weir responded the launch will be a permanent gradual launch as you enter the creek that will be treated to not to allow sludge to grow. Trustee Flaherty stated the creek will be used when the water is high enough to have water flowing or the kayakers will have to pull the kayaks in the dryer parts.

Chuck Rothermel noted Valatie and Kinderhook Fire Departments do not have any water rescue equipment or training for water rescue. If the village is seeking grant monies they should think about including training and equipment for the Fire Departments. The water can be high in the spring with rapids and trees down. They will need access points along the creek to be able to get to someone also.

Survey Committee- Park Revitalization

Survey Committee-The committee is establishing a survey to be approved by the Village Board and sent out to the village residents emphasizing on the villages parks and what should the village do with some of the village's assets and how the village services are. Mayor Abrams contacted Town Supervisor Ooms to discuss collaborating on an overall of all of the parks in the town and villages to maximize the assets of all the municipalities.

Playground equipment- Trustee Weir received an email from Miracle Playground Equipment informing her there are considerable manufacturing delays and they do not know when the equipment would be delivered.

Chuck Rothermel inquired on the rumors he heard of the village board building a daycare center at Rothermel Park. He noted due to Samascott's and the AHET the park cannot increase in size and he would hate to see ball fields taken away to construct a building. The park is not used by children like it had in the past when he was young. Mayor Abrams noted that is why the survey is being sent out to see what the residents wants. He wanted residents to think outside of the box. Trustee Weir noted it may be just updating the equipment, possibly adding a splash pad and having some equipment ADA compliant. Mr. Rothermel noted if you add a building you would increase your operating expenses also. Trustee Browne stated it helps having a plan in place when applying for grant funds. It has been shown in other municipalities having a plan assists in receiving grant funds.

A motion made by Trustee Flaherty to adjourn the special meeting and enter into executive session at 7:42 pm; to discuss personnel; seconded by trustee Browne. All voted "aye".

A motion made by Trustee Flaherty to pay the Asst' playground director \$22.00 an hour for the remainder of the summer program and to pay her the difference in her hourly wage of \$6.00 retroactively; seconded by Trustee Browne. All voted "aye".

A motion made by Trustee Weir to adjourn executive session at 7:54pm; seconded by Trustee Flaherty. All voted "aye".

Respectfully submitted,
Nicole H. Heeder
Village Clerk