

Minutes
Wednesday, May 25, 2022
Special meeting of the Village Board

Present: Mayor Abrams

Trustees: David Flaherty
Dorene Weir
James Mark Browne
Susan Patterson

Also attending: Fire Chief Matt Cohn; Economic Development Director Renee Shur; Representatives from The School Clark Griffin and Chris Harnaham; Town of Kinderhook recreation Director Barbara Berger

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

Monday, May 30 event plan review for Memorial Day parade

The Town of Kinderhook recreation Director Barbara Berger attended the special meeting to discuss the Memorial Day Parade to be held in the Village of Kinderhook this year. Barbara submitted a packet to the board members addressing the parade route, traffic detour route, line up, and speakers for the ceremony. There will be two sheriffs, one trooper and the Palmer engine and hose fire police assisting with the traffic. Town super intendant of Public works John Rochelle will provide barricades and detour signs to be placed along the parade route.

Saturday, June 4 event plan review for the family pride parade

The Village of Kinderhook Recreation Commission Chair Amber Van Moessner explained there will be a Pride Parade immediately following the Kinderhook Farmers' Market on Saturday, June 4th at approximately 1:15 pm. The Recreation Commission is requesting to keep the barricades up after the Kinderhook Farmers' Market until the end of the Pride Parade. The Parade will begin at the Kinderhook Memorial Library and will end in the Village Square. There will be a DJ and possibly a live musical performance with a bicycle decorating contest. A motion made by trustee Flaherty to allow the Recreation Commission to keep the one-way street closed after the Kinderhook Farmers' Market until the end of their program at approximately 3:00 PM; seconded by trustee Browne. All voted "aye".

Sunday, June 5 event planner review for the school Jack Shainman Gallery

Clark Griffin and Chris Harnaham informed the Village Board that the proposed large event at The School will be reduced to a smaller event from 4,000 to 800 attendees. Several factors took place in Jack Shainman's decision. An artist had pulled out of the event, the cost of the tent was expensive and the concern for the new regulations for the inspection of large tents. Although, Clark did say "the plane landed" and the village had approved the use of the tent. Chris Harnaham stated Mr. Shainman did not want to take a chance of something going wrong and he would be embarrassed. These events are a part of Jack's business and he would like everything to go smoothly. They will have smaller tents, there will be food and drinks provided and everyone from the village is invited. They will have one traffic warden at the cross walk. There will be a bus going to the Hudson train station and back. There will be no buses coming from the city. Clark Griffin thanked the village board for their time and for working with them in preparation of this event. This event was to celebrate the artist and they will be better prepared for next year's event. They already know the artist for next year's event.

Village roads, sidewalks, and drainage engineering assessment

A motion made by trustee Flaherty to have the Mayor sign the contract with Tighe & Bond in the amount of \$3,000 for the street and drainage assessments; seconded by trustee Weir. All voted "aye".

Open meeting law and Village policy and virtual meetings

The village received a summary from NYCOM on the new open meetings law from New York State. The new law states that if the Village Board is going to continue with Zoom a local law needs to be adopted by the Village Board by June 8th. If the village was going to continue with Zoom meetings residence attending by zoom would be allowed to participate as if they were attending in person at the Village Hall. A quorum of the board will need to be in attendance at the Village Hall. Mayor Abrams spoke with Village Attorney Robert Fitzsimmons and it seems the other municipalities are no longer going to offer Zoom including the Columbia County Board of Supervisors. Mayor Abrams is proposing the village discontinue zoom but record all meetings of the Boards and Commissions to be placed on the village's website within five days of a meeting for residence to view. He feels the village is very small and the Village Board makes themselves available to the public. The laws intent is to provide transparency. It is very hard to have a conversation with the public over zoom. Trustee Flaherty felt a zoom was helpful for some but became more problematic for the village. Trustee Weir would like to keep the zoom option open for discussion. Trustee Browne is in support of posting the recordings on the village website.

Official Village email address and business cards

Mayor Abrams requested all village officials use village issued emails to conduct all business. Trustee Weir noted when she receives her new cell phone she will activate her village email. Business cards for the mayor and trustees will be ordered. Their official emails will be published on the business card. Clerk Heeder requested the trustees inform her of what number they would like if any published on their business card and she will order them. Trustee Flaherty noted he would like his cell phone number listed. At this time the village is one email address short. Clerk Heeder requested Columbia County IT to provide an email for trustee Patterson by June 1 as requested by the mayor for everyone to start using their village issued email.

Speed sign implementation plan

The village has received the four speed signs. The Village DPW will be mounting the speed signs on existing telephone poles. It was determined not to install additional poles due to regulations and not wanting additional poles. Trustee Browne has placed a red flag and red ribbon around each pole where he is proposing a sign to be placed. He would like to install them in stages. He will start with Hudson Street and Albany Avenue. The proposed locations for the speed signs if the Village Board approves would be the pole near the bridge on Hudson Street, the pole at the corner of James and Albany Avenue, the pole between 46 and 47 Eichybush Rd, and at the guide pole coming from the south immediately after the welcome to the Village of Kinderhook sign, and a pole by coming into the village by the Stewart's Shop. Trustee Browne is in contact with national grid receiving permission to put the speed signs on their polls. He will also need to contact the state requesting permission to put the speed signs along Route 9. He would like to install the signs in phase's one sign at a time as the hardware arrives. Clerk Heeder received a call from village resident Tony Arpino as of why the red flags were by National Grid poles. She was unaware of the red flags and informed the resident he needed to call National Grid. National Grid did arrive noting the red flags were not theirs but they would be placing a transformer at that location. Mr. Arpino is now concerned with the transformer being installed in that location. Trustee Patterson as liaison National Grid will call them and inform them of the reason for the red flags from the village at their poles.

Electric charging station fees and issues

Trustee Browne worked with Climate Smart Chair William Mancini to activate the charging station fees. The objective is to offset the expenditures and collect approximately \$2,000 to cover those expenses. The rate was set at .16 KWH. The first two hours is free than a dollar an hour will be charged after that.

Correspondence

The village received a letter from Anne Schomaker who recently moved to 81 Albany Ave. She stated now that she drives Albany Avenue daily she is taken in by the beauty of Mills Park and wanted to thank the village.

A letter was received from Mary Rudolph from 61 Albany Ave concerning the village not having a ADA compliant path to the picnic tables at Mills Park. Trustee Weir has spoken to code enforcement officer Peter Bujanow concerning the ADA pathway. He feels this is something the village DPW can install. The village would also like to speak with the designer of Mills Park Sigrid Gray, and the Village DPW concerning moving a picnic table and installing the ADA compliant pathway to the picnic table.

Rothermel Park Revitalization Plan Update

Trustee Weir pulled the surveys from the Comprehensive Plan Update. The committee is comprised of trustee Mark Browne representative the AHET trail, Fay Antilac a village resident who lives across from Rothermel Park, Warren Applegate from the Persons of Color Cemetery, Jessica Burner president of the Columbia County Little League. Trustee Weir would like to reach out to a planning board member to join the committee also. The committee will survey the public and see what they would like at Rothermel Park to put the village in a position to apply for grant funds.

Social media policy

A motion made by a Trustee Weir to amend the Social Media Policy to include Nextdoor Kinderhook as an additional social media platform and to add the social media policy to the employee handbook; seconded by trustee Flaherty. All voted "aye".

A motion made by trustee Flaherty to adjourn the special meeting at 7:58 PM; seconded by trustee Weir. All voted "aye".

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole H. Heeder