

Wednesday, February 14, 2024
 Village of Kinderhook Regular Board Meeting
 Minutes

Present: Mayor Mike Abrams Clerk/Treasurer Nicole Heeder	Trustees: Dorene Weir James Mark Browne Susan Patterson Quinn Murphy
Attendees: Bill Mancini, Kristy Silvia, Trevor Bean, Renee Shur, Bill Laraway, Laurel Nicholson Browne, Astrid Montagano, John Piddock, Matt Cohn, William & Sabine Murphy, Nick Eisen, Anne Birckmayer, Wendy & Dan Bopp, Chris Van Moessner	

Mayor Abrams opened the Regular monthly board meeting at 7:00 pm. All stood for Pledge of Allegiance.

The public comment period for lowering speed limits was moved to next month.

[Clerk/Treasurer \(Nicole Heeder\)](#)

[Minutes of January 10, 2024, Village Board Meeting and January 23, 2024, Public Informational Meeting on Albany Avenue Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvement Projects](#)

A motion was made to approve the minutes of January 10, 2024 Village Board meeting and minutes of January 23, 2024 Public Informational Meeting on Albany Avenue Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvement Projects. Trustee Weir motioned to approve, seconded by Trustee Patterson, all voted ‘Aye.’

[Budget Amendments](#)

Following a brief discussion and acknowledgment that there were no questions or concerns.

General Fund

<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
A.1670.4 Central Printing and mailing	A.1680.4 Central Data Processing	\$ 1,411.92
A.3410.2 Fire Department Equipment	A.3410.41 Fire truck, Generator Repair	\$ 423.75
A.1460.1 Records Management	A.8020.1 Planning Personal Services	\$ 218.75

Water Fund

<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
F.8330.1 Purification Personal Services	F.8310.1 Water Administration Personal Services	\$ 164.02
F.8340.2 Transmission & Distribution Equip.	F.8320.4 Source & Pumping Contractual	\$ 2,827.87
F.8330.1 Purification Personal Services	F.8340.1 Transportation Distribution Personal Services	\$ 1,317.00
F.8330.4 Purification Contractual	F.8340.4 Transmission & Distribution Contractual	\$ 32.01

Motion to approve all Budget Amendments was made by Trustee Browne, seconded by Trustee Murphy, all voted ‘Aye.’

[Abstract](#)

Abstract expenses were provided, and a motion was made to approve the amount stated for various funds.

Motion to approve the Abstract in the amount of \$155,611.29; General Fund \$103,110.35; Water Fund \$35,423.48; Capital Projects Albany Ave. \$5,790; Construction Projects Albany Ave. \$11,287.46; was made by Trustee Patterson, seconded by Trustee Weir, all voted ‘Aye.’

[Treasurer's Report and Sales Tax Correction](#)

The Treasurer's report was reviewed with a mention of an anomaly regarding sales tax received. Initially, it was noted that there was an \$80,000 shortfall, but after following up with the county and identifying an incorrect algorithm, a restorative payment was received. A

total check of \$114,856.08 was received with \$81,119.10 was for the shortfall for the past three quarters.

Motion to approve Treasurer's report made by Trustee Patterson, seconded by Trustee Murphy, all voted 'Aye.'

[Proposed dates for the tentative June 1, 2024 - May 31, 2025, Tentative Budget](#)

Discussions were held regarding the proposed dates for the tentative budget. The dates finalized were March 21st, 6:00 pm for a Thursday meeting, and the following meeting was scheduled for March 27th. The possibility of needing an additional meeting on April 1st was discussed, depending on the outcomes of the first two meetings.

Records retention was discussed regarding old water bills and vouchers in accordance with State Archives policies. Motion to shred said documents was made by Mayor Abrams, seconded by Trustee Weir, all voted 'Aye.'

[Code Enforcement Officer \(Trevor Bean\)](#)

The code enforcement officer reported \$65,750 in improvements for the month, 2 property transfers, 2 updated inventories, and a stop-work order issued that is being resolved. There was brief discussion about the status of Short-Term Rentals (STRs) and the link on the website for an online application.

[Fire Department \(Matt Cohn\)](#)

The Fire Department provided an update including 9 calls and 2 drills and 1 detail, upcoming and past physicals and fit tests, and the preparation for the arrival of a new fire truck. Mayor discussed LOSAP certification for firefighters for board approval. Mayor Abrams motioned to approve the 2023 sponsor approval form for service award program for Village of Kinderhook Palmer Engine & Hose Co., seconded by Trustee Murphy, all voted 'Aye.'

[Water & Sewer Commissioner \(Dale Leiser – absent\)](#)

Unpaid water and sewer; Water \$12,888.29; Sewer \$18,698.83.

[DPW \(Dave Booth – absent\)](#)

[Economic Development Director \(Renee Shur\)](#)

The Economic Development Director gave an update on exploring opportunities to promote the village and attract visitors. Several grant opportunities were discussed with potential to improve infrastructure supporting local businesses.

[KBPA \(Renee Shur\)](#)

Kinderhook Farmers Market is the oldest market in Columbia County and has received 3 awards and 4 grants. Renee thanked the board for their continued support. Mayor Abrams expressed his gratitude to Renee and acknowledged all the work and the impact of the farmer's market on the village.

[Trustee Weir - Easter Egg Hunt Name Change Request by the Recreation Commission](#)

Recreation Commission met the past Monday and discussed Community night to be held Saturday, September 14, 2024, from 4:30 - 7:30 pm. Intense discussions took place regarding the name of the Easter Egg Hunt. Mayor formally apologized to resident Jerry Callahan for the hostility he received due to mentioning the lack of process for the unapproved name change for this event. Multiple residents gave their opinions, and after considering the community feedback and traditions, Mayor Abrams motioned to retain the name "Easter Egg Hunt", seconded by Trustee Murphy, and all unanimously voted 'Aye.'

(Note: The request to have an accurate count of comments or emails regarding Easter Egg Hunt name change was addressed with an offer to review correspondence.)

Trustee Weir also reported on Little Free Libraries, thanked Astrid Montagano, Wendy Spielman, Stephanie Lally, Stephanie Decreschenzo and Nina Dolan. Reported on the Senior Cabin Fever event, thanked DPW, Gary Nolan, Trustee Browne and Astrid Montagano. Reported on the new website and the LWRP Grant.

Trustee Murphy

Trustee Murphy reported on repairs for the elevator maintenance at VanBuren Hall.

Historic Preservation Commission - FY2022 CLG Grant

The progress of an amendment to the village's national registry was reported. The necessity to re-register with individual buildings was highlighted with potential opening up for grant opportunities.

National Register Amendment for Kinderhook Village Historic District

The ongoing project for the National Register Amendment for Kinderhook Village Historic District was discussed with its important role in securing future grants and the urgency imposed by the September deadline.

Trustee Murphy reported on the Climate Smart initiative and eligibility for a \$60,000 grant which could be spent on LED streetlights, EV charging stations, solar arrays at pump station and heat pumps at village buildings. Bill Mancini stated he was researching the Inflation Reduction Act 30% credit to not-for-profits for these kinds of projects.

Reported out on the Kinderhook Fire Department grant and requested approval to move forward with the grant application, deadline April 30th, 2024. A motion was made by Trustee Weir to approve moving forward with grant application, seconded by Trustee Browne, all voted 'Aye.'

Trustee Patterson - Planning Board - STR Application Update

The Planning Board did not meet in February, but the STR application had been finalized and published on the website. An update from the previous meeting was given on efforts to spread awareness about the application's availability.

The General Code redaction project is complete a public hearing will be held prior to its adoption.

Trustee Browne

Albany Avenue Water Main Upgrade Project

An update was provided on the water main upgrade project, with the RFP going out February 15, 2024. Solicitation for RF AMI metering system components received from Ti-Sales pending issuance of procurement documentation. Discussed coordination with financial advisors on borrowing methods for project finance.

Albany Avenue Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvement Project

This project is in the preliminary design approval stage, waiting for feedback from the Department of Transportation (DOT). The tree removal ahead of the upgrade was scheduled, with the RFP for the tree removal to be released. Tree removal to occur during the last two weeks in March.

Mayor Abrams

Volunteer Firefighter LOSAP points-A posting of the 2023 Firefighter Records listing was posted for 30 days. Mayor Abrams will sign the Sponsor Authorization Form on the motion of Trustee Murphy; seconded by Trustee Weir, all voted 'Aye.'

Discussions and actions relevant to the Mayor's report were merged into the meeting and reflected in respective agenda items.

Applications

Multiple applications for use of village facilities for community events and personal celebrations were approved, including requests from the Columbia County Historical Society, KBPA, and Kinderhook Elks Lodge, among others.

- a. Columbia County Historical Society is requesting Van Buren Hall and lift on April 6th from 2pm-5pm for a lecture on historic wedding dresses
- b. Columbia County Historical Society is requesting Van Buren Hall and lift on March 2nd from 2pm – 5 pm for a lecture by Ashley Benton on Suffrage Movement
- c. KBPA is requesting the Village Square and Bandstand for the following events: Farmers' Market May 4th -Oct. 12th ; Village yard Sale May 25th ; Crafte Faire June 1st ; People Parade July 4th ; Fall yard Sale Sept 14th ; October Fest October 12th ; Sleepy Hollow Reading October 26th ; Candle lite night December 6th ; Holiday Lights December 14th
- d. Kasey Kenny is requesting Van Buren Hall on March 9th ; 10 am-2pm for a birthday party
- e. Fyfes & Drumms of Olde Saratoga is requesting village streets. Parade –Route; Railroad Ave to Albany Ave.; Albany Ave to Broad St; Broad Street to “House of History.” They would also like to place a sandwich board sign one week prior to the event.
- f. Cammy Salazar is requesting Van Buren Hall and lift on March 9th from 4:15 pm to 8:30 pm for a birthday party
- g. Nicole Gardner is requesting the playground pavilion and K3 field on July 28th ; 9:30am-1 pm for a Sunday worship service
- h. Morey Hall is requesting Van Buren Hall on May 31st ; 4-6 pm for rehearsal and June 1st ; 3-5pm for a student piano recital
- i. Kinderhook Elks Lodge requesting the Village Square on March 30th ; 10:30am-1pm to meet and greet the Easter Bunny.

Trustee Murphy motioned to accept all applications, seconded by Trustee Weir, all voted ‘Aye.’

Taxpayer Time

Residents were invited to voice concerns and comments. Topics discussed included the frequency of sheriff patrols within the village and interactions with the state police. Concerns over the Albany Avenue project were expressed, citing disappointment in the process between neighbors and the board's approach to handling dissenting opinions.

8:03 p.m. adjourned regular meeting and entered executive session to discuss financing, land acquisition and staffing.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Sue Pulver utilizing HeyGov.

Executive Session

No motions made.

8:18 p.m. motion made by Trustee Weir to adjourn executive session, seconded by Trustee Patterson, all voted “aye.”

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole H. Heeder, Village Clerk