

Minutes
Wednesday, March 9, 2022
Regular Monthly Village Board Meeting

Present: Mayor Leiser

Trustees: David Flaherty
Michael Abrams
Dorene Weir
James Mark Browne

Also present: Climate Smart Committee Chair, William Mancini; Economic Development Director, Renee Shur; Fire Chief Matt Cohn. Approximately four residents via Zoom Videoconference.

Mayor Leiser opened the Public Hearing at 6:45 pm.

PUBLIC HEARING

Proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2022 entitled “A local law amending the Code of the Village of Kinderhook to provide for alternate members of the Historic Preservation Commission, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals and Recreation Commission.

Trustee Browne read aloud the Public Hearing Notice. The proposed local law is a Type II Action, no SEQR is required.

Q: Former Trustee Brian Murphy inquired if the alternate member would need to sit in on all meetings to listen in on all agenda items.

A: Trustee Browne responded: yes, the alternate member will need to sit in on the meetings if the chairperson chooses to call the alternate up to the board.

Trustee Browne closed the Public Hearing at 6:41 pm; seconded by Dorene Weir. All voted “aye”.

Mayor Leiser opened the Regular meeting at 7:00 pm.

CLERK/TREASURER

Minutes -A motion made by Trustee Flaherty to approve the minutes of February 9, 2022 monthly Village Board meeting; seconded by Trustee Weir. All voted “aye”.

Budget Amendments- A motion made by Trustee Flaherty to approve the following budget amendments; seconded by Trustee Abrams. All voted “aye”.

General Fund

<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
A.1990.4 Contingent	A.1420.4 Law Contractual	\$ 640.13
A.1460.4 Records Management	A.1450.4 Elections Contractual	\$ 4.35
A.1990.4 Contingent	A.1620.4 Buildings Contractual	\$ 537.06
A.3410.2 Fire Department Equipment	A.3410.4 Fire Department Contractual	\$ 99.10
A.3410.43 Fire Equipment Maintenance	A.3410.41 Fire Truck, Generator, Repair	\$ 1,251.54
A.3310.4 Traffic Control Contractual	A.3620.4 Safety Inspection Contractual	\$ 48.11
A.1990.4 Contingent	A.5132.4 Central Garage Contractual	\$ 2,278.66
A.5110.1 Street Maintenance Personal Service	A.7180.1 Special Recreation Facilities	\$ 48.40
A.1460.1 Records Management	A.7520.1 Historic Preservation Commission	\$ 97.45
A.1460.1 Records Management	A.8010.1 Zoning Personal Services	\$ 51.35

A.8160.1 Refuse Personal Service \$ 205.40

Water Fund

<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
F.8340.4 Transmission and Distribution Contractual	F.8330.4 Purification Contractual	\$ 90.00

Abstract- A motion made by Trustee Abrams approving the monthly abstract in the amount of \$48,059.64. General Fund expenses of \$41,965.42; Water Fund expenses of \$1,178.88; Sewer Funds expenses of \$4915.34; seconded by Trustee Flaherty. All voted “aye”.

Treasurer’s Report

A motion made by Trustee Flaherty approving the monthly treasurer’s report; seconded by Trustee Weir. All voted “aye”.

Budget Meeting for the 2022-2023 Tentative Budget-A budget meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 6pm.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Code Enforcement Officer Peter Bujanow submitted his monthly report to the Village Board showing \$595.00 was received in permit fees for February 2022.

Village Hall-He received the plans from the architect for the repairs to the Village Hall due the accident. He is working with Clerk Heeder to have the notice to bid the project in the Register Star in hopes to have a bid opening by the end of the month.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

The Economic Development Director, Renee Shur submitted her monthly report to the Village Board and will be posted to the village’s website.

Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation-EDC Director is requesting the village act as a fiscal sponsor for a grant called Kinderfest that will enhance activities at the Farmer’s Market. A motion made by Trustee Flaherty to have the village act as a fiscal sponsor on behalf of the KBPA for the 2022 Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation for a grant on Community Impact called KinderFest; seconded by Trustee Weir. All voted “aye.”

Historic Kinderhook GeoTourist App-Renee is looking for anyone with a recording studio to schedule recording sessions with narrators Wendy Speilmann and Stephen Lang for a proposed project completion this April.

KBPA-the KBPA is working on a few new events; a Craft Fair in September and Renee is working on outdoor films for the summertime. They will be sponsoring “Kinderhook Flower Walk” in April where you may walk around the village viewing flower arrangements in windows from florists or flower growers throughout the village.

MAYOR LEISER

Fire Department-Fire Chief Matt Cohn reported 3 calls, 1 Drill and 0 Details. The department has scheduled their drills for 2022.

DPW Truck-The village needs to replace the 2005 GMC truck it has a cracked frame. A truck with chassis and cab is \$64,000 and will be ready in eight to nine months. The imbed sander/salter with a wing is an additional \$96,000 and is a year out prior to receiving. The village currently has \$40,000 in savings for a truck with an additional \$10,000 in this year’s budget to be moved into the savings by the end of this fiscal year. Mayor Leiser is proposing an additional \$10,000 in the 2022-2023 budget leaving approximately \$100,000 to finance. Mayor Leiser noted the truck is on state contract and H.L Gage is requesting a letter of intent. Trustee Flaherty made a motion to have Mayor Leiser sign a letter of intent; seconded by Trustee Browne. All voted “aye”.

National Grid-Mayor Leiser spoke with Bob Chevy from National Grid to confirm the removal of the platform transformer is on schedule to be completed by the spring. Bob Chevy confirmed the project is on schedule hoping the obtaining of the easements will not postpone the project. Solar panel at the Firehouse and DPW Garage- Mayor Leiser spoke with Dan Degan from Suncommon. They will be starting the project soon as he is aware the village's fiscal year ends May 31st and this project is in the village's current fiscal year.

TRUSTEE FLAHERTY

Village Hall Justice Court-The village is requesting an extension of the Justice Court grant for the front entrance door to the Village Hall and is awaiting a 2nd quote to fulfill the village's procurement policy.

Bandstand- the HPC had a few suggestions on the proposed fence at the bandstand. Trustee Flaherty will discuss with architect Greg Merryweather.

Zoning Board of Appeals-The February 28, 2022 meeting was cancelled due to a lack of agenda items.

Garbage Contract-Village Attorney Robert Fitzsimmons is preparing the joint garbage contract with the Village of Valatie to go out for bid in preparation on the village's budget time.

TRUSTEE ABRAMS

Water and Sewer-trustee Abrams reported past due water of \$2,038.88; past due sewer of \$2,513.54 totaling \$4,552.42 of unpaid utilities to the village. He did speak with the business owner requesting to have his late fees waves due to an executive order during COVID. As part of the executive order the resident/business owner would have to enter into a payment plan. He did not wish to therefore trustee Abrams will not move forward with the executive order as the majority of the other unpaid water bills are \$100 or less.

WIA and Tap grants- The grant awards were scheduled to be awarded in February. As of their website today, trustee Abrams noted the awards were not awarded.

HPC-the Commission proposed changes to the bandstand plans presented by trustee Flaherty on behalf of the village. They also discussed creating guidelines for new construction for within the HPC district.

Resolution to reaffirm commitment to inclusion-trustee Abrams thanked Climate Smart chair Bill Mancini for forwarding the resolution and trustees Weir and Browne for editing the resolution for the village. Trustee Abrams made the following resolution; seconded by trustee Flaherty. All voted "aye".

Whereas, The Village of Kinderhook Mayor and the Village Board of Trustees upon, reviewing the resolution of the County Government Committee, discussed at a meeting held on the 17th day of June; 2021; and of the Finance Committee; as discussed at a meeting held on the 24th day of June, 2021 and thereafter adopted; we hereby acknowledge and concur with their resolution against hate;

WHEREAS, recently as a nation we have witnessed an increase in violence based upon a person's religion, race, gender identities, sexual orientation, nationalities, economic status, and political affiliation; and

WHEREAS, here in the United States communities that have been built with the guidance, assistance and leadership that is inclusive of peoples of all races, religions, nationalities, gender identities, sexual orientations, economic status and political affiliation are more successful; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Kinderhook continues to maintain that all people of our community have the right to feel safe and be treated equally and with respect and dignity regardless of their

race, religion, nationality, gender identity, sexual orientation, economic status and political affiliation;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Village Mayor and Board of Trustees on behalf of its constituents' members, do hereby state that the Village reaffirms our commitment to a status of inclusion for all races, religions, nationalities, gender identities, sexual orientations, economic statuses, and political affiliations; and be it further

RESOLVED, that on behalf of all residents of the Village of Kinderhook we maintain our position that violence of any kind is unacceptable and condemn any act of aggression, hostility or violence against any member of our community based upon race, religion, nationality, gender identity, sexual orientation, economic status or political affiliation; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this is posted on the Village of Kinderhook website and that our resolution be sent to the Columbia County Government.

Adopted by the Village of Kinderhook Mayor and Village Board of Trustees on the 9th day of March 2022.

TRUSTEE WEIR

Recreation Commission- the commission is requesting the Village Board to approve two new events in calibration with Kinderhook Memorial Library. 1. Family Pride Parade- To be held on June 4th, starting at the Library where celebrants will craft a flag and parade to the bandstand for a celebration and refreshments. The commission will remove the barricades set up for the Farmer's Market at the end of the Parade. 2. Juneteenth Celebration held on June 18th at the Persons of Color Cemetery at Rothermel Park and the use of the Pavilion from 12-3pm. A motion made by Trustee Flaherty approving the additional two events and the use of village property for the events; seconded by trustee Abrams. All voted "aye."

LWRP- on Friday, March 15, 2022 at 10 am trustee Weir will be meeting with EDC Director Renee, Clerk Heeder and Lisa Vasilakos from NYS Department of State to finalize the RFP to hire an engineering firm for the Local Waterfront Revitalization Project.

Memorial Day Parade-Fire Chief Matt Cohn has confirmed three Fire Departments will be marching in the Parade. (Kinderhook, Valatie and Niverville. The Ichabod Crane Band, Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts have also confirmed to participate.

Village Bulletin-trustee Weir reported the bulletin will be ready for publishing on April 4th if the board would like to publish anything please forward to her.

Climate Smart Task Force- Mr. Mancini reported the following:

-The 2022 Dash for Trash in the Village is set for Saturday, April 23 in celebration of Earth Day. They plan to set up a tent in the Village Square for registration, judging and offer information regarding residential composting and recycling.

-Four Big Green Boxes have been filled and returned for recycling. That is approximately 172 pounds of batteries and small electronics that will not go to landfills.

- Community Solar Campaign – At this time, the committee has received \$775 from Astral Power. They are awaiting Solstice's incentive of \$2,500 and the village received the \$5,000 from the NYSERDA grant this week. The committee agreed to allocate some of the funds to the DPW for the purchase of battery powered string trimmer along with the installation of a water fountain in the village square. He requested trustee Flaherty to discuss with Gregory Merryweather for

the placement of the water fountain with the plans for the bandstand. And possible adding bike racks.

-Task Force member Warren Applegate is researching having additional electric charging stations in the village on commercial properties. Tara Donadio is looking into funding that is and will be available to commercial property owners.

-the Task Force reviewed the recently issued draft of the County's Solid Waste Management Plan, specifically the section on recycling. They requested the village receive data from County Waste on the amount of materials collected that are actually able to be recycled and what their policy is that should and should not be put into the single stream containers. By having this information they can assist in providing educational information to the community. Trustee Flaherty will contact Waste Management.

-the Task Force asked Tara Donadio to provide information regarding funding for heat pumps for Village buildings. They also discussed the possibility of starting a residential heat pump campaign in the Village similar to the community solar campaign. Mayor Leiser met with Dell's Plumbing for a proposal of a heat pump on the Fire House. The initial proposal is \$30,000-\$35,000.

-the village sent a notice out to the village residents requesting if anyone was interested in being the Village's representative on the County Environmental Management Council. They would need Village Board recommendation and the approval of the Board of Supervisors. Village resident, Paul Greene sent in his resume and letter of interest to the Village Board. A motion made by Trustee Flaherty to appoint Paul Greene as the village's representative seconded by Trustee Weir. All voted "aye". Mr. Mancini will inform Mr. Greene of his appointment.

TRUSTEE BROWNE

PP LL No. 1 of 2022- A motion made by trustee Browne to adopt Local Law No. 1 of 2022 "A local law amending the Code of the Village of Kinderhook to provide for alternate members of the Historic Preservation Commission, Planning Board, Zoning Board of Appeals and Recreation Commission; seconded by trustee Weir. All voted "aye". Trustee Browne will take the responsibility of informing all of the boards of the local laws adoption.

Drainage-Would like to start preventative measures for drainage of culvert pipes including the water gathering on Albany Ave especially when it rains.

AHET-Residents have started using the trail and the use will increase as the snow goes away. The sign at Rothermel was missing and has been replaced.

Policy Handbook- Trustee Browne has finished his cut of the Employee Policy Handbook and feels the village can adopt the handbook in this fiscal year. He has not heard back from Rob with final legal review and would like Clerk Heeder to also review for accuracy prior to adoption. When the village adopts the handbook they will be adopting anything that will affect the budget. When the village adopts the handbook he will have a printer print twenty copies and he will make sure everyone has signed the sexual harassment and any other documents required.

Liaison Updates- the Town of Kinderhook is updating their code covering solar farms. In addition, they have opted in with the Columbia County Solar Plan for residential and commercial sites. Trustee Browne followed up on a letter sent he sent to our NYS Senator and Assemblyman concerning traffic safety and truck traffic. He expects to receive a formal response back from the Senator and he plans to meet with our Assemblyman to seek funding for a Kinderhook truck traffic study.

Trustee Browne signed up to attend a webinar on the NY Stretch Energy Codes and Innovation and Inspection Techniques and I am hoping to receive the power point presentations.

APPLICATION OF USE

A motion made by trustee Flaherty approving the following Applications for Use; seconded by trustee Abrams. All voted “aye”.

- a. Bill Laraway (KBPA) is requesting Van Buren Hall on March 6th; 2-5pm to hold a candidate forum for the village election.
- b. Kinderhook Memorial Library is requesting the Playground Pavilion for a picnic for library patrons on May 28th from 11am-1pm.
- c. Tri-County Lutheran Parish is requesting the Village Square on 7/17/2022 from 10am-11am to hold a worship service.
- d. John Piddock Kinderhook Elks Lodge is requesting the use of the bandstand on April 16th from 10:30 am-1:00 pm to meet the Easter Bunny.

PEDDLER’S PERMIT

A motion made by trustee Flaherty approving Brian Collis (Good Humor Ice Cream) to sell ice cream throughout the village streets from April 1st until October 1st; seconded by trustee Abrams. All voted “aye”.

TAXPAYER TIME

Trustee Flaherty stated this is Mayor Leiser’s last official meeting as Mayor for his second term as Mayor and wanted to thank him and his family for their years of service. He is the last of the crowd that has been on the board for years like former Mayor Dunham and Phillips. He knew Dale did not want to run for Mayor but felt obligated to the village as no one else wanted to or if they did they did not have the time. This term of being Mayor had its challenges, COVID turned the world upside down and there was a lot of behind the scenes work that people do not see and he wanted to personally thank Dale.

Mr. Mancini wanted to thank Dale for his time with all his done and cooperativeness and help with the work Bill has done.

Mayor Leiser thanked the Village Board noting the current board is one of the best working boards he has worked with. Everyone works and is willing to take on more when asked. He never thought this time would come but it has. He stated “It has been a pleasure to serve his community”.

Trustee Weir thanked Dale for all he has taught her the last year and half and for the time he has taken with her to learn.

Mayor Leiser thanked the Village Board noting the current board is one of the best working boards he has worked with. It has been a pleasure to serve his community.

Executive Session

A motion made by Trustee Flaherty to enter into executive session on personnel at 8:03pm; seconded Trustee Weir. All voted ‘aye’.

Mayor Leiser noted the Deputy Clerk's probationary period has ended and per her interview an increase in pay would be discussed. A motion made by Trustee Weir to increase the deputy clerk's hourly wage to \$20.00; seconded by Trustee Abrams. All voted "aye".

A motion made by Trustee Flaherty to adjourn executive session at 9:03 pm; seconded by Trustee Weir. All voted "aye".

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole H. Heeder
Village Clerk