

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on July 8, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Room of Village Hall.

Present: Mayor John Barton  
Trustee Michael Horrigan  
Trustee Daniel Hogan  
Trustee James Gallagher, Jr.  
Attorney Bill Nikas  
Trustee Jeffrey Gaulin

Mayor Barton opens the meeting up with the Notice of Bond Resolution that was published about for the Water Department Project. No input was given by the public.

Upon motion made by Trustee Horrigan, seconded by Trustee Hogan and unanimously carried it is;

**RESOLVED**, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on June 10, 2024

Upon motion made by Trustee Gaulin, seconded by Trustee Horrigan and unanimously carried it is;

**RESOLVED**, to approve the purchase of a 2023 Chevy Malibu from DePaula Chevrolet for the Police Department in the amount of \$25,497.50, state contract number PC69234. \$10,000 will receive from a grant, the remaining to be expended from ARPA funds.

Upon motion made by Trustee Gaulin, seconded by Trustee Gallagher and unanimously carried it is;

**RESOLVED**, to approve the appointment of Drew Seeley as a Custodian P/T effective 6/26/24, at the rate of \$20/hour.

Trustee Horrigan abstained, as it is his grandson.

Upon motion made by Trustee Gaulin, seconded by Trustee Horrigan and unanimously carried it is;

**RESOLVED**, to approve **Omnibus Resolution made for the following Resolutions.**

**RESOLVED**, to approve the Standard Workday for all Police Officers P/T to be 8 hours.

**RESOLVED**, to approve the Standard Workday for the Village Superintendent of Public Works to be 8 Hours.

**RESOLVED**, to approve the Standard Workday for the Chief of Police to be 8 hours.

**RESOLVED**, to approve the appointment of John Mead to Village Historian for the term of 4/1/24 – 3/31/28.

**RESOLVED**, to approve Standard Workday and Reporting Resolution for elected and appointed officials.

Next the Board needs to address the need to define “a reasonable amount of time” with regard to Village Code regulations for enforcement actions.

The Mayor says that he has spoke with Attorney Nikas on this matter, and it is agreed that it should depend on the situation and a judgement call made by Will Celeste and Hope Rosati. If there is a particular situation Will or Hope is to be in contact with Mr. Nikas.

Hope Rosati, Enforcement Officer explains why this matter has come up. Currently there is a situation that has come up and although the code says you can not live in a camper, a complaint has come through that there is someone staying in a camper with a generator since May 18<sup>th</sup>. In this situation, she inquires what would be considered a reasonable amount of time. Mayor Barton and Trustee Horrigan collectively agree 7-10 days. Different circumstances due to special events or occasions is where it should be allowed. Mayor Barton asks of the specifics of the current code. It is read aloud: no recreational vehicle shall be used as a residential dwelling. It may be used for occasional recreational use so long as it is down during a reasonable period of time.

Mr. Nikas recommends that if we have this particular situation that a written notice should be issued to inform them that the reasonable amount of time 7-10 days has been exceeded and to put them on notice of the violation. Trustee Hogan inquires what if they come back and says, this is my family they are on vacation for a month, can we look at it individual case by case. Mr. Nikas responds that if you set that precedent you’ll have 10 people with campers. A brief discussion ensued.

Upon motion made by Trustee Hogan, seconded by Trustee Gaulin and unanimously carried it is;

**RESOLVED**, Monthly Reports approved as submitted.

Fire Department, submitted by John Santa Croce  
Code Enforcement, submitted by William Celeste

Upon motion made by Trustee Horrigan seconded by Trustee Hogan and unanimously carried, the following abstracts were audited and ordered for payment:

General Fund	Check Nos. 36581 - 36627
Water	Check Nos. 5973 - 5974
Trust	Check Nos. 8023 - 8026
Payroll	Check Nos. 31353 - 31366
2% Fire	Check No 1019

**Mayor Comment:**

Tonight starts Community Night, 4:00 – 7:00 every Monday night for 6 weeks. We have bands scheduled, and the school has arranged different events every week, food trucks and vendors.

**Board Comment:**

Attorney Nikas informs the Board in case if there are anymore inquires about trees, he has received a response from New York State Comptroller attorneys, and they have agreed with the Board's decision on how to handle privately owned trees. Mayor Barton adds, like the incidents on Labarge and West street, their trees, their responsibility.

**Public Comment:**

Timothy Burns, Derby Street, approached the Board to express his concern with the neighbor running a salvage yard. This has been an ongoing issue for about 4-6 months now. Prior to him being there, there was a salvage yard on Burgoyne, and we made him move out to Fort Ann for similar issues. He has contacted Code Enforcement at least a half a dozen times in the last two months and the response that he is receiving from Will Celeste is that he is in the process of making him cleanup, or there is nothing Code Enforcement can do, or just various excuses of why he does not want to enforce the village code laws. The neighbor is banging and grinding metal all hours of the day. He has contacted the police and the police have told him it is a code issue. Mr. Burns adds that he has been doing it for about a year now. When he first started it would collect and be all over the yard and near the roadway, then he cleaned it up a bit, but then it all adds back up. Mr. Burns explains that it now looks like a junk yard. He refers to when Ross Cortese was Code Enforcement and back then, Mr. Cortese would say there will be no salvage yards in the Village of Hudson Falls. Now this other Code Enforcement continues to say he'll take care of it, but nothing is being done. Mayor Barton said he will look into it and address the issue.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday August 12, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

Upon motion made by Trustee Horrigan, seconded by Trustee Gallagher and there being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 4:18 p.m.

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Cassandra Allen, Village Clerk-Treasurer