

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on November 12, 2024, at 6:00 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
Absent: Trustee Jeffrey Gaulin

Mayor Barton began the meeting requesting an update on Warren Street. Mr. Nikas shared that he is compiling old maps and facts of the boundary line, and in a couple of weeks it should be final.

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

RESOLVED, to approve the provisional appointment of Cori Winch to Police Detective, effective October 16, 2024.

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

RESOLVED, to approve the temporary appointment of Andrew LaFay to Police Sergeant from November 1, 2024 to February 15, 2025.

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

RESOLVED, to approve the appointment of Emily Sanzo to Part-Time Police Officer, effective October 24, 2024, at the rate of \$22/hr.

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

RESOLVED, to approve the appointment of Logan Gillis to Part-Time Police Officer, effective October 25, 2024, at the rate of \$20/hr.

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

RESOLVED, to approve the appointment of Shane Reynolds to Motor Equipment Operator, date to be determined with required NYS DOT testing, at the rate reflective in the CSEA contract.

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

RESOLVED, to approve Michael Fiorillo to sign 2024-2025 Snow Removal Agreement.

Juckett Park fountain is falling in disrepair. It is currently closed up for the season. We will be working on different ways on how we plan to replace it in the spring. Trustee Horrigan, asked about the Juckett Foundation. Mayor Barton said he plans to contact them to see if they are able to assist in the replacement, but he would like to have all the information and cost estimate before doing so.

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

RESOLVED, to approve the following Budget Appropriations:

	Credit	Debit
Contingency: A-1990.4.000		3,000
Buildings: Repair: A-1620.4.001	3,000	
Worker's Comp: A-9040.8.000		21,000
Contingency: A-1990.4.000		16,743
Fire & Police Retire: A-9015.8.000	36,743	

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

RESOLVED, Monthly Reports approved as submitted.

Fire Department, submitted by John Santa Croce
Police Department, submitted by Chief John Kibling
Code Enforcement, submitted by Will Celeste

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

General Fund	Check Nos. 36797 - 69858
Water	Check Nos. 5991 - 5994
Trust	Check Nos. 8046 - 8050
Payroll	Check Nos. 31416 - 31436
2% Fire	Check No. 1020
Capital (Derby)	Check No. 1051

Mayor Comment:

No comment.

Board Comment:

No comment.

Public Comment:

Debra Jones, Oak Street, approaches the Board about a tree in front of her house. She states that it has been going on for several years. She provides the Board with pictures of limbs that have fallen. She adds that it still gets leaves but its brittle and the limbs are constantly falling. She has made a complaint to Mike Fiorillo with no response and plans to attend every meeting until we take this tree down. Trustee Horrigan asks if she has any pictures of the tree itself, the pictures only portray branches that have fallen. She explains that years ago they were able to cut limbs that were over the driveway and now the limbs are too high and are still falling. Mayor Barton asks what kind of tree it is, Ms. Jones response it is the rotten kind of tree that the Village planted. She adds that years ago when her husband passed, her and Mike Fiorillo talked, and she decided she was going to move her driveway because it would be easier for her to maintain it and be more accessible to her home. She requested Mike Fiorillo to take a tree down, so she could move the driveway. There was nothing wrong with that tree at the time and he took her down at her request. She doesn't understand why he can't just take this other tree down at her request. She believes that Mike Fiorillo is hesitant to accommodate her because he did cut down a perfectly healthy tree years ago when she requested him to with the assumption, she was moving her driveway. She never followed through with moving her driveway, so she believes that is why he is putting off taking this tree down for her. A brief discussion ensued.

John Anderson, State Route 149, approaches the Board to express his concerns of the Margaret Murphy school zone area. He provides pictures to the Board. He explains that it does not look like a school zone. He spoke with some teachers, and he was commended by them when they found out he was coming tonight and speak up about the ongoing issues and concerns. Recently he arrived at parent pick-up 30 minutes early, and he counted 20 cars roll through the stop sign at North Oak and Clark. Most of the cars are rolling onto Clark Street to be able to see around the cars to pull out onto Clark. He continues with explaining the speeding, the rolling through stop signs and the dangers that he has encountered firsthand at the cross walk. He thinks signage or the police officer's presence could help to make the community safer for the school zone. Trustee Horrigan agrees with the signage to raise awareness. The Board will talk to the Police Department on coverage. A brief discussion ensued.

Andrea Kirby, River Street, Deborah Martin, River Street, Rosemary O'Donnell, Ferry Street, all approached the Board to discuss their concerns with Wheelabrator renewing their New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC) permit. Being nearby residents, they are constantly dealing with the vibrations, and violations of the noise ordinance day and night. The noise ordinance code is to bring peace and tranquility to our village as it says in the code. They state that they have heard explosions, fires that last for 2 hours, a haze that covers the area. They are requesting an advisory board and a continuous air monitor, to raise awareness of what is coming out of the building. An air quality report is done annually by Wheelabrator and submitted to DEC, but it is not disclosed to the public. A brief discussion ensued.

One of the speakers speaks to Attorney Nikas about the noise, recalling a previous complaint and conversation in 2020. Attorney Nikas reexplained that noise ordinance based on decibels are hard to enforce. He asks the speaker about coordinating with Clean Air, Tracy Fisher as he spoke with her today. Clean Air plans to hire counsel to hopefully challenge the permit process. They were very involved in with Biochar groups and plan to get involved with this.

Sheryl Chrissler, Jones Avenue, approaches the Board to also express concerns with Wheelabrator. She recalls in 1988 her father was Mayor at the time and fought the trash plant for all these same reasons. Mayor Barton explains he was also on the Board in 1988 and he also fought the trash plant with her father. They attended several meeting and court appearances. The Village was fighting it and spent a ton of money fighting it and they lost. He is confident that Tracy Fisher has the knowledge and expertise to gather the proper information. Mr. Nikas adds that DEC is the key player in this. Back when the landfill was in operation, DEC was threatening Warren, Essex and Washington County with a \$5,000 a day penalty until we closed our landfills. So, now you see DEC shut down Biochar and there is no way Moreau can fight Biochar without the support of DEC, the goal of Clean Air is to hire a firm that specializes in Environmental Law. You can't fight a government entity like DEC without the proper support and knowledge.

Matthew Benedetti, Kelly Avenue, approaches the Board to just show his support for all of the other speaker and agrees with all that has been said.

Ron Atkinson, Burgoyne Avenue, approaches the Board to also show support against Wheelabrator. He agrees with a self-monitoring requirement. For them to be able to self-monitor their own operation or even for them to be able to handle their own fires is concerning and dangerous. As elected officials who are obligated to do the right of the people, he hopes that they will support and will proceed with confronting DEC for this change. A brief discussion ensued.

Cindy Bennett, Owner of Gus's Place, approaches the Board to briefly express her concerns with Wheelabrator. There has been several nights that she gets woken up due to loud sounds, but the smells, smoke and vibrating sounds are very disturbing.

A member of the audience shares a video of the black smoke that was pouring out of the stack for 2 ½ hours on Election Day.

Mark Layden, North Oak, approaches the Board to express concerns of Wheelabrator with two requests to the Village Board to help restrict and monitor the plant. He explains even from his location he can see the smokestacks. First, he requests that the state is to provide us with a continuous monitoring system. Secondly, he requests that any permits that are pending that the Village asks for a delay. A delay will give us more time to compile the information in order to make a decision. A brief discussion ensued.

Mayor Barton thanks all the residents for attending and sharing their input.

Trustee Hogan asks if any of the residents speaking up has attended any other meetings. One speaker responds that they will go wherever they need to go and that they are looking for guidance. Mayor Barton recommends using Clean Air for guidance as they will be their best resource. Mr. Nikas adds that we might see the counsel for Clean Air take action.

The next regular meeting will be held on Monday December 9, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

Upon motion made by Trustee Gallagher, seconded by Trustee Gallagher and there being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 6: 52 p.m.

Cassandra Allen, Village Clerk-Treasurer