

## **Minutes Special Meeting**

**July 15, 2019**

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Greenwich was held on July 15, 2019 in the Board Room of the Community Center at 6 Academy Street in the Village of Greenwich. Present were Mayor Fuller, Attorney Kelly and Trustees Brown, Robinson, Edsforth, Vandewater and Superintendent Flynn Mayor Fuller opened the meeting at 6:05 PM.

### **Vouchers:**

Mayor Fuller asked for a motion to pay the following: General Fund voucher numbers 614 – 617 in the amount of \$32,080.75. General Fund voucher numbers 20 - 76 in the amount of \$139,357.07. Water Fund voucher numbers 2 - 8 in the amount of \$1,015.02. Sewer Fund voucher numbers 1 – 6 in the amount of \$2,236.65. Trustee Brown made a motion to pay these. 2, seconded by Trustee Edsforth and carried by all.

### **Old Business**

Streetlight conversion. In anticipation of the conversion, Trustee Vandewater inventoried the streetlights and discovered some areas of unnecessary lights. National Grid, at first reluctant to decommission any lights, now may be open to public opinion on lights. Options are still being explored on Village ownership vs National Grid ownership, service and maintenance and rebates and incentives.

### **Natural Gas Service:**

Mayor Fuller reports: National Grid has determined there is not enough gas supply for the whole village, but there is enough for the Village Hall and a few streets. The annual savings to heat the Village Hall would be about \$5000. New furnace cost is unknown at this time. It looks like the project could start before the fall. National Grid has agreed to survey a few streets to determine how many residents will commit to using the gas within a year of installation which will determine which streets will be the first to get gas.

### **Sewer System:**

Mayor Fuller initiated the discussion with some background. The sewer fund ended in the red for the fiscal year 2018/19, which is against municipal law. It must be self-sustaining, without assistance from other funds. This puts us in a problematic position. We do not want to raise rates for residents in the sewer district. The answer to why the sewer system is losing money brings us to the Grinder Pump contract with the school. The 1985 contract has never been updated. Attorney Kelly observed the contract states the Village shall furnish, install, own and maintain the pumps in good working condition. The recourse may be to be raise rates for GCS. Superintendent Flynn stated there are two pumps in each grinder for a total of 6. The pumps and motors are extremely expensive and have all been rebuilt at least once. There is no separate agreement for servicing the pumps. The cost is based on unit rates. In order to raise rates to cover grinder costs, a calculation of maintenance and upkeep is needed. Talking to the Board or Mr. Fish may be a first step.

The second sewer discussion is the condition of the system. Don Fletcher from Barton & Loguidice led this discussion. At 35 years old, the system has reached the end of its useful life. The state is now working through a list based on water quality and size of the plant. The goal is to have some sort of disinfection for all treatment facilities. The SPEDES permit allows the Village to discharge liquid from the treatment plant to open water. At this point the state wants the effluent disinfected before release to the river. The two methods of disinfection are chlorine or UV light. The state has issued a

mandate stating disinfection will start by 2024. This is not an unfunded mandate. Funding is available with the EPG program through EFC. An application can be submitted for a \$30,000 study grant with a 20% match which can be achieved through in-kind services or cash. The award could be used for studying the plant as a whole along with disinfection. The application is due July 26. Mayor Fuller asked for a motion to pass a Resolution to authorize the submission of an application to the Environmental Protection Grant through the Environmental Facilities Corporation. B&L will fill out the application pro-bono.

**Peddler's Permit:** A September 21<sup>st</sup> event at Gather would like to provide food via Roundhouse Bakery food truck. Approved on a motion by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Vandewater and carried by all.

**Code Enforcement Officer:** Mayor Fuller asked for a motion to approve the appointment of Eric Becker as the Code Enforcement Office for the Village of Greenwich, Trustee Brown made this motion, seconded by Trustee Vandewater and carried by all.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm at on a motion from Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Vandewater, and carried by all.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Dowling