

Minutes – Special End-of-Year Meeting Village of Greenwich
May 31, 2022

The special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Greenwich was held May 31, 2022 in the Board Room at 6 Academy St. Present were Mayor Fuller, Trustees Brown, Panza and Robinson. Trustee Vandewater and Attorney Kelly were absent. Trustee Brown left at 7:30pm.

Mayor Fuller opened the meeting at 6:34 pm.

Damon Hartman from Prentiss & Carlisle; Woodlot Management Services, spoke to the group regarding the April 26, 2022 proposal submitted. He outlined P&C background; a 100-year-old private company based in Maine with in-house logging operations in Maine only. Logging in other states is contracted out. He explained he does 20-30 projects a year for municipalities like ours. Mr. Hartman based his proposal on the document submitted by Dave Keel. P&C would contract with all vendors. Logging would be performed, ideally in the dry season of summer or winter. This provides flexibility for quality contractors available to us. The deadfall left by NYSEG after clearing the power lines could be cleaned up if it was within the logging area. The two business models as Damon explained 1) Timber is marked, sale is laid out for a lump-sum sealed bid sale. Winning bidders log the property. The downside of this model is trail rebuilding, signage and the like are not included, and would be a separate contract. The second model 2) that P&C uses, incorporates the landowner's other priorities; land usage, trails, recreation blended with logging to meet the objectives of the client. It's not just a logging job. So, a lump-sum timber sale would probably cause P&C to back out, being more interested in bidding on the sale. Dave Keel's plan is more similar to P&C objectives. Damon went through the bullet points of this second model:

- Locate and delineate harvest area boundaries
- Mark timber
- Sub-contract logging and activities
- Harvest marked timber
- Supervise
- Close out harvest area, being especially careful of violation potential
- Review performance

One logging contractor; Southwind Forestry is interested in the job. Ideally, starting next month and working through the summer would be ideal. If Southwind Forestry did the job, it would probably be about 6 weeks. The Norway Spruce stand was discussed as being over mature. It's a non-native species. There are only two ways of going, a light thinning or a clearcut. The blowdown threat of a light-thinning is fairly high. That natural cycle of Spruce is to come down all at once. Stumps would be left. Too costly to be removed, and provides natural nutrients. Natural hardwood reforestation is recommended. The buffer zone by the water would be 100 ft., not to be thinned, to prevent blowdown. Rerouting the trail away from the buffer zone may be wise. This would be the only clearcut stand. It would take 3-5 years to green-up. A re-evaluation will be about 10 years, barring a major ice-storm event. The harvest of other stands will make a more valuable harvest in the future.

Other than the clearcut or thinning question, the Dave Keel plan would be the plan. P&C builds profit margins into the contract. Benchmark Forestry does herbicide treatments. Application prior to harvest would be ideal to prevent spread of invasive species. This is applied via backpack or 4 wheeler. This cost would be a cost pass through as would be signage. There is no mark-up.

Issues might be the bee hives, DPW access to be explored. Available to consult at other sites a \$70.00/hour.

Next steps: run contract by attorney, if approved, a letter of engagement to trigger a formal evaluation of the property. A sale would be scheduled immediately, and attention would be paid to market trends. Trustee Brown left at 7:30.

Chief White asked for a revision of last month's motion. Approval is needed for purchase Fire Truck for \$25,000 from Hampton Fire Company. The motion last month sold the truck to Ray Energy who was going to gift it to the Fire Company.

Resolution No14 of 2022 to accept the bid of \$25,000 for the 2000 HME Fire Engine to the Hampton Fire Company made by Trustee Panza, seconded by Trustee Robinson and carried by all.

Funding the WWTP design phase of the project. The AARPA funds will cover about \$185,000 of the \$445,000 cost. The fund balance is about \$500,000. Mayor Fuller would like the balance to come from this as opposed to loans. That option is still open to us down the road. We could also pay the general fund back if we were awarded grants to cover costs. Mayor Fuller would like to proceed with the design phase now. A motion to approve the design phase of the WWTP at a cost of \$265,000 to be paid from the General Fund by Trustee Panza, seconded by Trustee Robinson and carried by all.

Tech Monkeys proposal – Trustee Panza will contact to find out more specifics. Tabled.

Vouchers

General Fund Voucher numbers 503 - 545 totaling \$26,202.25

Water Fund Voucher numbers 102 - 110 totaling \$4,301.71

Sewer Fund Voucher numbers 68 - 70 totaling \$1,897.81 NYMS

Capital Project Fund Abstract 12 Voucher numbers 42 - 44 totaling \$6,500.00

NYMS Capital Project Fund Abstract 13 Voucher numbers 46 - 48 totaling \$4,400.00

Motion to approve paying the vouchers was made by Trustee Robinson, seconded by Trustee Panza and carried by all.

Correspondence:

A request was made to share in the \$750 cost of two horse and buggy rides for the period of 4 hours for the Whipple City Festival. There will be clean-up for the manure. Motion to approve this one-time request for the cost of these rides up to \$375.00. Approved.

Resolution No15 of 2022 BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Greenwich authorizes the Treasurer to apply the final budget modifications necessary to prevent any overdrawn accounts at year end. Made by Trustee Robinson, seconded by Trustee Panza and carried by all.

Motion to adjourn at 8:19pm by Trustee Robinson, seconded by Trustee Panza and carried by all.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Dowling