

Minutes - Special Board Meeting Village of Greenwich  
April 17, 2023

The Special Budget Workshop Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Greenwich was held April 17, 2023 in the Board Room at 6 Academy St. Present were Mayor Fuller, Trustees Brown, Robinson, Grimmke, and Vandewater. Mayor Fuller opened the meeting at 6:32 pm.

1. **2023/2024 Budget.** Two minor changes were made after the public hearing held on April 10<sup>th</sup>: Increased Solid Waste Disposal (SWD) sticker revenues A2130 by \$4,000 and corrected the debt service and interest payments, F9720.6 and F9720.7 in the Water Fund to match the amortization schedule. The total tax levy will be \$1,160,577. An increase of 2.92% from last year's levy, but still under the tax cap of \$1,169,490. A resolution to adopt the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budget was made on a motion by Trustee Vandewater, seconded by Trustee Brown, and carried by all.
2. **Timber Harvest at the Hayes Reservoir.** Forester Jim Allen gave an updated values for each of the project scopes being discussed: (1) Timber harvest on entire Hayes Reservoir property and (2) Timber harvest on entire Hayes Reservoir property less the approximately 6 acres on the top of the ridge. Discussion was had about the benefits of the different types of harvest methods, and Jim explained his reasoning for choosing each method. It was determined that the best logging method would be cut-to-length, as it is the most efficient and least messy. Mayor Fuller asked how long the 2<sup>nd</sup> project scope would take from start to finish if the board approved it. Jim Allen reported that it would take approximately 6 months from start to finish with favorable conditions. The Board agreed that the Reservoir property would be closed for the public for the entire project timeline. However, Jim Allen has offered to give periodic planned tours to the public to show them the progress and as a learning tool for community engagement. Discussion was had on invasive species and the strategies that can be used to mitigate their growth during the regrowth phase. Jim Allen reported that many people in the public offered to volunteer to help with this, and it can be a great asset. The brush dump was identified as a potential source for invasive species seeds. Trustee Grimmke suggested that the DPW start chipping all of the brush prior to unloading into the dump because this hinders the chance of any further seed propagation. Jim explained the next steps of the process of putting this project out to bid, and how the cash flow will operate once the project commences. Jim Allen does not believe a SEQR will be needed for this project, as he has never been required to complete one for any other prior project. Mayor Fuller will convene with Attorney Kelly to make sure this is the case. Jim would prepare the bid documents by the end of May. The potential bidders would have a chance to meet with Jim to view the project, preferred the last week in June. The bid deadline would be Thursday, August 10 at 2pm, and the winning bid will be awarded at the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees on August 14. A resolution to approve the cut to length timber harvest operation at the Hayes Reservoir and engage Jim Allen to prepare the bid specifications and contract was made on a motion by Trustee Vandewater, seconded by Trustee Brown, and carried by all.
3. **Community Center Attic.** A resolution to approve the expenditure not to exceed \$4000.00 from the Building Repair Reserve for the purpose of 6 Academy attic, wall, and pigeon clean up subject to permissive referendum made on a motion by Trustee Grimmke, seconded by Trustee Brown, and carried by all.

4. Motion to rescind the motion made at the special budget workshop meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Greenwich on March 27, 2023 made by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Vandewater to change the water/sewer billing cycle to March 1, July 1, and Nov 1, effective March 27 was made by Trustee Grimmke, seconded by Trustee Robinson, and carried by all.
5. **Simpson St.** Mayor Fuller attended the Washington County Finance Committee meeting to make the case for the Washington County to transfer the deed of 10 Simpson St., parcel number 229.18-1-16 to the Village just prior to the county foreclosure auction. The expectation will be for the Village to pay the back taxes to make Washington County whole which are approximately \$12,000, and then sell the property and recover at least the costs of clean up and demolition it has spent on that property over the years. The Finance Committee voted in our favor, pending the approval of County Attorney Roger Wickes.
6. Mayor Fuller reported that neighbors of the Hayes Reservoir have reported sightings of non-village vehicles using the village compost dump. Discussion was had about the next steps to remedy these actions.
7. **NYPA –Blended Power Proposals.** New York Power Authority has given the Village quotes for fixed rate power supply services for one-, two- or three-year terms, and for base product, 51% green, and 100% green supply sources. The quotes are only valid for 24-hours, so Trustee Brown made the motion to authorize the mayor to sign the contract after Board approval via email, seconded by Trustee Vandewater, and carried by all.

**8:42pm** Motion to adjourn made by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Robinson and carried by all.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Prime – Village Treasurer/Deputy Clerk