

Regular Meeting of the Village Board of Trustees

May 8, 2023

7:00 pm

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Greenwich was held May 8, 2023 in the Board Room at 6 Academy St. Present were Mayor Fuller, Trustees Robinson, Grimmke, Brown, Vandewater, as well as Attorney Kelly, Sergeant Danko, Working Supervisor Mike Smith, President Jim Mumby and Treasurer Prime. Chief White and Superintendent Flynn were absent. Mayor Fuller opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

Vouchers

General Fund Voucher numbers 490 - 530 totaling \$348,775.20

Water Fund Voucher numbers 102 - 110 totaling \$11,014.30

Sewer Fund Voucher numbers 69 - 74 totaling \$6,005.81

Water Supply Improvements Capital Project Voucher number 25 totaling \$7,500.00

Waste Water Treatment Plant Capital Project Voucher number 24 totaling \$17,200.25

NYMS Grant Program Capital Project Voucher numbers 21 - 22 totaling \$51,218.84

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

Department Reports

Fire: Assistant Chief Smith delivered the April report: no new members. Calls - 25, EMS calls – 10. Fire related calls - 15. Emergency response hours – 133.5, training hours and activity – 480, for a total of 613.5 hours. The Air Cleaning System contract being purchased with FEMA Grant funds is ready to be signed. A deposit is needed in the amount of \$14,933. The Village will get back \$9550.50 after required in-kind match is deducted. The equipment has been installed in the 2023 Chevy Tahoe and will be in service soon. Chief White is still asking for the \$25,000 from the sale of 2000 ER 321 to be put back in FD Equipment Reserve. George Culbertson celebrated 50 years of service to the community with a well-attended event at the Middle Falls Fire Department. The next CPR class will take place on May 25 at 6:30 at the Fire House.

Motion: to approve the payment of \$14,933 for a deposit on the FEMA Grant work. Motion made by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Robinson and carried by all.

Police: Sergeant Danko delivered the April report: 12 cases reported to DCJS with 38 reported for the year. Four arrests; 7 for the year, with 134 calls for service this month; 518 for the year. Types of cases handled; domestic violence investigations, bomb threat, theft of services, burglary, fraud, falsely reporting of fire, and VTL arrest. Sergeant Murray sent a letter of appreciation for the assistance of our Police during the homicide on April 15th in Hebron. A chart of traffic stops and calls broken down by streets was created. About 50% of the calls for April were traffic stops. One of the new speed signs was installed by the DPW at the entrance to the Village on Route 372. Eddy and Salem Street sign installations for the other will be forthcoming as soon as time allows.

DPW: Working Supervisor White delivered the April report. Normal work was completed along with 2 service line leaks, a coupling repair on Eddy St and the installation of the shut-off valve to the 4" main in

Fisher Street, which will allow the installation of the new meter (finally) to the elementary school. Don Dulmer has been called to remove two trees, which has not been done at this time.

Youth: President Mumby delivered the April report. Attendance was 262; closed for spring break. Normal activities ongoing. New hire; Heather Harrington, will work 2-3 days per week.

Mayor: Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner Trustee Vandewater and I attended the Chamber dinner. Congratulations to the Chamber on a well-attended, successful dinner. Among many guests were Sen. Jake Ashby and Rep. Carrie Woerner. **Sidewalks** We have the initiation document from Carrie Woerner's office. Trustee Grimmke will take the lead to create a proposal for updating sidewalks throughout the Village, starting with data that prioritized our sidewalks that was created for the Streetscape Plan. Our DPW will support the work by doing the preparation work. **Hayes Reservoir Timber Harvest** We are planning the timber harvest project, tentatively scheduled to begin in September. **New York Main Street Grant** Our Main Street grant continues with work on the last of the 10 properties; it will wrap up this year. **BOA Pre-Development Grant** This is the joint grant that we received with the Town to move several of the projects from the revitalization plan forward. For the Village, we will plan the update of our zoning ordinance and conduct a study of extending the wastewater infrastructure to the Dunbarton site. We have received the proposal for LaBella, which brings in resources from other engineering firms, including B&L, and meets the requirements for MWBE participation. The Town is the lead agency. **Restore New York Work** continues on the Restore NY Round 6 award projects, with progress on the adjoining properties on Main Street. Restore NY Round 7 application was submitted by the end of January deadline; we are waiting for the announcement about which applications were awarded. **Water Project** We decided the awards for the work for the pipe and have received the contracts to review, which Attorney Kelly has approved. The RFPs for pipe installation should be released by Memorial Day. **Wastewater System** We met with our EPA representative for the wastewater plant grant. The SPDES application is ready to be submitted to the DEC; documents are ready to sign. **Converting Streetlights to LED Fixtures** The installation of the new streetlights is happening now. **EPA Grant for Phase 2 Assessment of the Dunbarton Mill Site** A site visit was conducted by the team from LaBella; the workplan is being prepared to submit to EPA soon. **Parks and Recreation Areas Task Force** The task force is meeting tonight; we've assembled an excellent group of members. The group hopes to have a table at Whipple City Days to gather public comments. **Town-Village Comprehensive Plan** Next week a public event is planned for the Greenwich Riverside Park, which will focus on the new shared Comprehensive Plan for the Village and the Town. **AGFTC** We are waiting for word about launch of the new study about connections for biking and walking trails; this should launch in the fall. **NY Forward Grant** We had a debrief session with our EFC representative, which gave us some good information for our next application. **Veteran Banners** The Memorial Day group of banners will be up before the holiday (thank you, Greenwich DPW, for your support); we will have another group that will be hung for the July 4th holiday. The deadline for submitting applications for this next round is May 19th. The contact person is Maria Robinson.

Old Business:

- **Proposed sewer increase** – motion to rescind and replace sewer rate change from July 1 to September 1, 2023. Therefore, each sewer account will pay \$10 more effective September 1, 2023. Motion made by Trustee Brown, seconded by Trustee Vandewater and carried by all.
- **Traffic on Main St-** Jim Southerland, Martine Arenella and Kathleen Ashton, all of the Village spoke about the increased volume of traffic and speed of vehicles. Martine collected about 50 signatures from residents on Main, Church and Salem Streets. Jim Southerland sent a letter and a copy of the signatures to the State DOT Commissioner. Each resident spoke eloquently on the

subject of danger to pedestrians of all ages including baby carriages, dog walkers, crossing guards and their charges. Kathleen Ashton has a clear view of the Church/Main/Academy intersection from her home and has witnessed many incidents and near-misses first hand. She mentioned speeding on Church Street between 2:30 – 3:30pm on school days coming from the direction of school. Additional police presence, signage, rumble strips, repainting crosswalks and other solutions were discussed. Sergeant Danko pointed out, in response to a comment on the intermittent nature of sign operation, that the speed signs are solar powered and the lack of sun can affect performance. Trustee Grimmke added that sending letters to the DOT Regional Director in addition to the Commissioner can have added impact. The Board discussed rolling some of these additional measures into big projects such as the Streetscape Project should be explored.

- **Timber Harvest at Hayes Reservoir** – Attorney Kelly has determined that a SEQR is needed and will be started at the next meeting. Jim Allen is working on the bid documents and will publish a notice(s) in the paper. He is planning a showing of the timber the week of July 10. The bids will be delivered to the Village on August 10 at 2:00pm. After attorney review, bids will be awarded on August 14. The harvest will start on September 1, subject to completing the SEQR Type 1 action. Jim Allen will fill in the form and present an initial draft. Public comment will be accepted for a yet unspecified amount of time.
- **Water Improvement Project Update** – Contracts are ready to be signed from the vendors.
- **Streetlight Conversion Update** – covered in the Mayor's report.

New Business

Permits

- **Suzanne Cohen** 3rd floor permit for play rehearsal 7/1/23-8/31/23 weeknight evenings and weekends to be determined. **Approved**
- **Greenwich Rough and Ready Coin Drop - July 22** in front of station 29 Main St. 8am – 1pm. **Approved**

Correspondence

- **Gannon Memorial Scholarship for Performing Arts.** Approved and budgeted. Trustee Robinson will present both.
- **Gannon Memorial Scholarship for Community Service.** Approved and budgeted

Public Comment

- Non-village resident commented on her sense of the Village's lack of community vis-a vis Hayes Reservoir property.

Sidewalks – A discussion on sidewalks, where the worst stretches are and how to stretch \$20,000 to provide more bang for the buck. Mike Smith added that blacktop was usually used on the driveway aprons. Trustee Grimmke will make recommendations on the sidewalk project.

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

Respectfully submitted
Jane Dowling – Village Clerk